



# Eureka!

News for Eureka Valley, Upper Market, Castro, Duboce & Twin Peaks. Published by the  
**Eureka Valley Promotion Association**  
*Serving the neighborhood since 1881.*

Volume 125, Issue 11 November 2006

www.EVPA.org

www.PinkTrianglePark.org

## Traffic Light at Intersection of 19th Street and Castro Street

A letter from Bond M. Yee, the MTA (Municipal Transportation Agency) Acting Director, was sent to Supervisor Dufty discussing adding a traffic light at the intersection of 19th Street and Castro Street. The EVPA membership needs to discuss this controversial topic at the upcoming general meeting. The following are excerpts from the letter:

### Chronology

1. In fiscal 1995-1996 DPT applied for funds to install a traffic signal at this intersection. The signal had originally been requested by the Eureka Valley Promotion Association in 1989.
2. Upon learning that the City planned to install a traffic signal, both the Eureka Valley Promotion Association and Castro Area Planning and Action wrote letters to DPT in June of 1996 objecting the signal on various grounds. DPT agreed to the requests and a traffic signal was not installed.
3. In February 23, March 22, and April 26, 2004, DPT attended pedestrian safety meetings convened by the supervisor's office at 501 Castro Street. The issue of signalization was discussed in detail. Some residents were clearly in favor of a signal but others were against. DPT noted that due to the previous controversy, a consensus was required first before the City would apply for signal funds again.
4. DPT repainted the yellow crosswalks to the zebra pattern in 2004.

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Notice of Annual EVPA Officer and Board Member Elections

The following are the announced candidates for the upcoming EVPA Officer and Board Members.

- President:** Frank Weiss  
**Secretary:** Gustavo Serina  
**Treasurer:** David Weiss  
**Board Member:** Mike Babbitt  
**Board Member:** Demian Quesnel

## EVPA's Thank You to Castro Street Fair Volunteers

I would like to thank all of the 2006 Castro Street Fair volunteers for with out them and their outstanding help EVPA could not do the wonderful work it does for Eureka Valley.

The 2006 Castro Street Fair had a record number of EVPA volunteers. For that I am filled with gratitude. Thank you to one and all for making the 2006 Castro Street Fair so much fun and for raising the most money the fair has ever raised. Without the volunteers, we could not have had such an amazing fair.

Thank you again!  
 Joe Caruso

### List of Volunteers

- |                 |                          |                 |
|-----------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Amanda Lee-Low  | Hazel Aragon             | Mike Anderson   |
| Amy Li          | Heide Chipp (Treasurer)  | Mike Delsilva   |
| Anngie Lu       | Isaac Dana               | Natalie Chu     |
| Bob Melbourne   | Jarrett Hornbostel       | Nymaya Osman    |
| Bob Jorgansen   | Jenna Mariano            | Patti Carlisi   |
| Bobby Pike      | Jimmer Cassiol           | Phelan Guan     |
| Carlos Delmarco | Joe Caruso               | Rachanna Kann   |
| Diane Nutting   | Joe Simon                | Richard McRee   |
| Doug Bullard    | John Russo               | Rick Singer     |
| Doug Williams   | Judy McRee               | Robin Brown     |
| Ed Chin         | Kelsen Chan              | Stephanie Zhong |
| Eric Billings   | Lancy Lin                | Steve Sullivan  |
| Eric Chu        | Leslie Yeung             | Steve Torres    |
| Eric Diep       | Lili Yip                 | Sue Johnes      |
| Eric Singer     | Lion Barnett (Treasurer) | Tinny Tan       |
| Francis Johnson | Mack Qin                 | Todd Bennett    |
| Frank Weiss     | Marco Chin               | Tom Davis       |
| Geoff Williams  | Matthew Hoac             |                 |
| Gustavo Serina  | Micheal Perry            |                 |

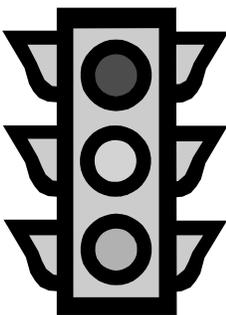


## Traffic Light *(Continued from page 1)*

5. Since the letters of opposition written in 1996 there have been no formal requests from an area neighborhood association to install a traffic signal at this location. The organizations in question have not formally reversed their stands.

### Issues with Installing a Traffic Signal

The intersection of 19th and Castro Street is currently controlled by an all-way STOP. This is typically one of the safest forms of controls for locations with moderate traffic volumes. All vehicles are required to come to a STOP and yield to opposing traffic and pedestrians. Left turns can be easily made, as oncoming traffic always has to stop. Pedestrians do not have to wait for a WALK indication and thus delay for them is reduced. The intersection has had no reported collisions in the past three years and observations indicate it is operating satisfactorily. There are currently other candidate locations with higher collision totals where a signal may be more beneficial from a safety standpoint.



Part of the reason a traffic signal is controversial is because the fears that some people have are not easy to mitigate. One of the main concerns with installing a traffic signal is that this device would speed up traffic approaching and leaving the intersection, concerns that are magnified by the downhill south of the intersection. Other concerns include the inherent conflicts between pedestrians crossing parallel to vehicles that have a green light. Both 1996 letters in opposition also cite concerns about traffic signals changing the character of the corner. Currently the residential area of Castro Street between 19th and Elizabeth Streets is controlled with STOP signs, and the worry is that a traffic signal may serve to highlight the area's commercial side.

Proponents of signalization are concerned with the amount of traffic in the area and think that a traffic signal will help pedestrians by providing long periods when cross traffic is stopped. They believe that the stop and go nature of the all-way STOP leads to problems if vehicles do not watch for pedestrians. A traffic signal could be used to provide additional green time for Castro Street, thereby reducing some of the peak hour congestion on this approach.

Given the uncertain local support, we recommend reaching a consensus first whether a traffic signal would be beneficial and that any agreements by neighborhood associations be put in writing. Without such consensus our recommendation is to retain the existing all-way STOP operation. If the consensus is for a traffic signal to be installed at this location, it could be added to our candidate list for potential funding. The current cost of installing a traffic signal is approximately \$350,000.

## EVPA's Thank You Letter In Support of SFUSD JROTC Program

Dear Commissioners,

We have become aware of the Board of Education resolution to eliminate the JROTC program from SFUSD. Although the Castro Street Fair Commission applauds your effort to fight discrimination, we do not agree with your resolution to ban JROTC. Such action, we believe, only limits the choices and opportunities for our students and will not have an affect on changing national policy that discriminates against gays and lesbians. We stand united against the Military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy and other federal laws that treat the GLBT community as second-class citizens. However, we do not believe eliminating JROTC is an effective method of addressing our concerns.

The presence of the JROTC program provides many tangible and intangible benefits to the schools and our city. Recently, nearly fifty JROTC students volunteered to collect donations at the gates entering the Castro Street Fair. To say that we were impressed with these young people is an understatement. The JROTC students worked hard, took initiative, showed respect, and represented the youth of our city in a professional, positive way. Everywhere you look in our great city you find JROTC students spearheading volunteer efforts to make San Francisco a better place. The Aids Memorial Grove, The San Francisco Food Bank, Toys for Tots, various parades, Glide Memorial homeless programs, The Hamilton Family Center, International Coastal Cleanup, Golden Gate Park projects, and The Officer of Emergency Services are but a few of the myriad of agencies and activities where JROTC students have contributed.

Our observation of JROTC students is that the JROTC program teaches values of acceptance, open mindedness, respect, personal accountability, critical and creative thinking, and leadership. Furthermore, as we talked with these young people over the course of the day we found that none of them felt they were being groomed for future military service nor were any of them planning to enter the military after high school. Instead, it seems their JROTC teachers are pointing them toward college. We believe eliminating the JROTC program would have a deleterious affect on our school district and our city. We beseech you to withdraw or defeat the resolution to eliminate JROTC.

### Upcoming EVPA Meetings

EVPA meetings are back in the Eureka Valley Recreation Center Auditorium, 100 Collingwood (behind Cala Foods). See you there!

**December 21, January 18, February 15**

## Meeting Minutes October 2006

- 1.) Upon motion made and seconded, membership approved spending up to \$1000 to create a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization.
- 2.) Upon motion made and seconded, membership voted to oppose the parking elements within the Market/Octavia Boulevard Plan.
- 3.) Upon motion made and seconded, membership voted to recommend the following community benefit requests from developers building within Eureka Valley under the guidelines proposed by the Market/Octavia Boulevard Plan:
  - Planting more trees on Castro Street between Market and 19th Streets
  - Installing and maintaining flower boxes between the palm trees along Market Street
  - Hiring more Special Patrol Officers to increase safety
  - Hiring more staff at the Eureka Valley Recreation Center



2362 Market Street

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For any EVPA members or member referrals—5% of my commission donated to EVPA.

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- |                        |                         |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
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| Make a Door Fit        | Restore/Install Artwork |
| Pack Things to Ship    | Build Bookcase to Fit   |
| Small Carpentry Jobs   | Consumer Advice         |
| Organize Your Storage  | Short Notice Jobs       |
| Assemble Kit Furniture | Organize a Move         |

**Bob 336-7330**  
[bob@bobburnside.com](mailto:bob@bobburnside.com)

## Handy Resources for Home

Report Litter 28-CLEAN  
Report Graffiti 241-WASH  
Police Non-Emergency 553-0123  
Police/Mission Station 558-5400  
Help A Homeless Person 431-7400  
(Mobile Assistance Patrol dispatched)  
Street Cleaning 695-2017 or 695-2020  
Abandoned Vehicles 553-9817  
DTP Dispatch 553-1200  
Street Signs Missing/Damaged 554-9780  
Pot Hole Repair 695-2100  
Supervisor Bevan Dufty's Office 554-6968  
bevan.dufty@sfgov.org  
CBD Hotline 559-6968

### 2006 EVPA OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

**President:** Frank Weiss  
**Secretary:** Gustavo Serina  
**Treasurer:** David Weiss  
**At-Large Board Members:** Mike Babbitt, Adam Hagen, Joe Foster,  
Rick Galbreath

## Join EVPA by Sending Us This Completed Membership Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
*First* *Last*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
*First* *Last*

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. \_\_\_\_\_  
City: San Francisco, CA Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(EVPA does not share your contact information with other groups)

My concerns for the neighborhood include \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in working on the following issues:

\_\_\_ City Planning/Zoning \_\_\_ Transportation, Utilities & Neighborhood Commerce

\_\_\_ Public Health/Safety \_\_\_ Education/Recreation \_\_\_ Membership & Promotion

\_\_\_ Finance \_\_\_ Internal Affairs \_\_\_ Pink Triangle Park

\_\_\_ **Renewing membership.** \_\_\_ **New membership.**

\_\_\_ I wish to receive my copy of the Eureka! Via the internet rather than by US Mail

**Annual Membership dues are \$20 per calendar year for individuals, \$30 for households and \$40 for businesses or nonprofits in Castro, Upper Market, and Duboce Triangle (Eureka Valley).** EVPA is a non-profit California corporation. Please return this form with your check payable to EVPA to:  
**EVPA, PO Box 14137, San Francisco, CA 94114-0137**

**EVPA P.O. Box 14137**  
**San Francisco, CA 94114-0137**  
**Address Service Requested**

[www.EVPA.org](http://www.EVPA.org) [www.PinkTrianglePark.org](http://www.PinkTrianglePark.org)



**General Membership Meeting**  
**Thursday, November 16, 2006 7:30pm**  
**Eureka Valley Recreation Center**  
**100 Collingwood St.**

### **AGENDA**

Traffic Light for 19th Street and Castro Street Intersection

