



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSLETTER EUREKA!

News for Eureka Valley, Upper Market, Castro, Duboce & Twin Peaks

CASTRO/EUREKA VALLEY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

The neighborhood association for the Castro, Upper Market and all of Eureka Valley since 1878

Volume 132, Issue 11 September 2010

www.evna.org

www.PinkTrianglePark.org

CASTRO/EVNA ELECTION SPECIAL!

As the election nears in 56 days or so, Castro/Eureka Valley Neighborhood Association's September 15 Membership Meeting at Chase Bank, Sanchez at Market, focuses exclusively on two controversial and important propositions: B, Pension Reform and G, MUNI Reform.

As these are two HOT TOPIC issues, the Board of Castro/EVNA anticipates a packed room. However, we are limited to a maximum of 35 attendees at Chase Bank. If you plan to attend, ensure your seat with an RSVP by Monday, September 13, to Alan.Beach@EVNA.org. Note: should RSVP's warrant, we may change the venue, so an RSVP is doubly IMPORTANT.

PROPOSITION B DISCUSSION AT 7:00 PM

Public Defender Jeff Adachi (pro) and San Francisco Firefighters, Local 798, Representative Tom O'Connor (con) will each have 10 minutes to present, followed by 25 minutes for membership Q & A.

PROPOSITION G DISCUSSION AT 7:45 PM

Supervisor Sean Elsbernd (pro) and a Representative from Transport Workers Union, Local 250 (con) will each have 10 minutes to present, followed by 25 minutes for membership Q & A.

Castro/EVNA will not take a position on either of these reforms; however, we think these are two critical propositions. The statements below are printed as submitted by the proponents/opponents and have not been edited for content. Hope to see you at this important meeting.

PROPOSITION B: PENSION REFORM

PROPONENT'S STATEMENT:

There are two provisions under Proposition B. The first requires all city employees, including elected officials, to contribute between 9-10% towards their pensions. The second requires that city employees contribute more towards their dependent health care costs.

Under Proposition B all City employees and pensioners continue to receive 100% of their healthcare benefits. Instead of the City paying 75% of dependent health costs, all City employees will share 50-50 in healthcare costs for their dependents. Proposition B would save the City \$83.3 million in health care costs; funds can be used to preserve health programs for people who don't have health coverage.

Currently:

- A city worker with no dependents pays nothing for his or her health-care and the City pays \$481.70 per month.
- A city worker with one dependent pays \$8.84 per month and the City pays \$953.50 a month.
- A city worker with two or more dependents pays \$228 per month and the City pays \$1,132.54 a month.
- All of these payments into healthcare by city employees are with pre-tax dollars.

Under the Prop B:

- A city worker without dependents would still pay nothing
- A city worker with one dependent would pay, on average, \$241.76/month
- A city worker with two dependents would pay \$439.79 per month

The average San Francisco city employee earns \$93,000 a year compared to a private sector employee who earns \$46,000.

The opponents state that Prop B "cuts health benefits for widows and children of safety officers killed in the line of duty." California law states that families of deceased public safety officers receive benefits "under the same terms and conditions prior to the death of the employee." Proposition B does not change this. Additionally, under the Federal Public Safety Officers' Act, families of slain safety officers receive \$275,000.

The opponents have also declared that Proposition B fails to "distinguish between low-wage and highly-paid workers." San Francisco has never based contributions by city employees on the income level of its employees. Proposition B does not change this.

Join 49,178 San Francisco voters and VOTE YES on Proposition B

PROPOSITION B: OPPONENT'S STATEMENT:

Proposition B is a poorly-drafted, deceptive, and unfair measure that significantly raises the cost of health care for thousands of working San Francisco families and retirees.

It was placed on the ballot with private financing and without evaluating its costly unintended consequences or holding a single public hearing or meeting with the thousands of retirees, teachers, nurses, firefighters and other employees it impacts—all of whom voluntarily decreased the cost to the City of their coverage last year.

These are the troubling facts about Proposition B:

- **INCREASES HEALTH CARE COSTS.** Under Proposition B, a single mother with one dependent will be forced to pay as much as \$5,600 more per year for health care coverage. Most employees will see their costs more than double.
- **DOESN'T DISTINGUISH BETWEEN LOW-WAGE AND HIGHLY-PAID WORKERS.** Proposition B increases the cost of health care whether an employee makes \$30,000 or is the top brass. It even cuts health care benefits for widows and children of police officers or firefighters killed in the line of duty.
- **COSTS THE CITY MILLIONS.** Proposition B makes San Francisco ineligible for \$23 million a year in Federal health reform funding for health benefits for employees and retirees—just the beginning of the measure's hidden costs.

In a city that leads the country in health care reform through Healthy SF and other innovative programs, this Proposition B takes health care drastically backwards. Proposition B strips individuals of their healthcare and puts undue strain on the precious few clinics and programs that serve San Francisco's diverse communities. And, it does nothing to fix the issues that drive increases in health benefit costs.

That's why it's opposed by the San Francisco Democratic Party, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Mayor Gavin Newsom, Assemblymember Tom Ammiano, State Senator Mark Leno, Supervisor Bevan Dufty, District Attorney Kamala Harris, Board President David Chiu, California Nurses Association, United Educators of San Francisco and many others. Please vote NO on B.

PROPOSITION G: MUNI REFORM

PROPONENT'S STATEMENT:

MUNI is a critical part of San Francisco's infrastructure. Unfortunately, route cuts and decreased service have made Muni inefficient and unreliable. Real Muni reform is needed to improve service and increase reliability.

Prop G will allow the MTA to allocate limited resources to services for riders rather than automatic, annual raises for drivers. Currently, the Charter guarantees Muni drivers the second highest salary in the country. This year, Muni drivers received an almost \$10 million raise while the MTA reduced services 10 percent.

Prop G will eliminate the salary guarantee, so that drivers' salaries do not automatically increase. Prop G will allow drivers to negotiate salaries through collective bargaining—just like all other city employees.

Prop G will also allow the MTA to negotiate new work rules, so that service is more reliable and more responsive to riders' needs. Current work rules restrict the ability of the MTA to schedule, deploy, and assign Muni drivers.

Proposition G would "press the reset button" on existing work rules, which create inefficient and unreliable service for riders. For example, Muni operators are allowed to be absent without notice, missing runs and contributing to poor service.

San Francisco is a world class City that deserves a world class transit agency. Join me in voting Yes on Prop G.

Supervisor Sean Elsbernd

OPPONENT'S STATEMENT:

Eureka! regrets that as of press time, Transport Workers Union, Local 250, did not submit an Opponent's Statement for MUNI Reform. We encourage you to attend our Membership Meeting, September 15 to hear TWU's statement to oppose MUNI Reform.



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EVNA
PO Box 14137
San Francisco, CA 94114
Address service requested
www.evna.org

Next Meeting!
WEDNESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 15TH

7 TO 8:35 PM
Chase Bank, 15th & Sanchez

1. Welcome & introductions
2. Approval of minutes
3. Proposition B Discussion
4. Proposition G Discussion
5. New Business

3-1-1

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EUREKA!

published six times a year by Castro/Eureka Valley Neighborhood Association

2010 Membership Meetings

7:00-8:30 PM, Chase Meeting Room
15th & Sanchez at Market St.

January 20, March 17, May 19, July 21,
September 15, and November 17

2010 BOARD

You can email the board at: board@evna.org

President: Alan Beach-Nelson
alan.beach@evna.org
415/431.5152

Secretary: Rob Cox

Treasurer: Demian Quesnel

Tim Eicher
Steve Clark Hall
Judy Hoyem
Jack Keating
Dennis Richards
Gary Weiss

Past President, Scott Wiener



GETTING INVOLVED AND BEING INFORMED

President's Column
Alan Beach-Nelson

As the "real San Francisco Summer" arrives there are multitudes of ways for YOU to get involved in *your neighborhood*. Come join us in the fun!

CASTRO STREET FAIR, OCTOBER 3, 2010

Castro/EVNA is again a beneficiary of the Castro Street Fair. This is the single largest source of funding for EVNA and helps us keep our memberships fees low. We are recruiting volunteers to come have some fun with fellow members and an EVNA Board Member greeting Fair attendees and collecting donations to benefit a multitude of Eureka Valley non-profits including EVNA.

2-hour Castro Street Fair volunteer shifts available:

10 AM to noon • noon to 2 • 2 to 4 • 4 to 6

To sign up, email me Alan.Beach@EVNA.org.

ELECTION FORUMS

PROPOSITION B AND G FORUM, SEPTEMBER 15, 7 PM AT CHASE BANK

Space is limited, RSVP suggested to ensure space Alan.Beach@evna.org. See related article for Pro and Con statements.

DISTRICT 8 SUPERVISOR FORUM, MONDAY, OCTOBER 18, 7 PM

Moderator: Liam Mayclem, Host, KPIX Eye on the Bay,
Davies Hospital Auditorium

Castro/Eureka Valley Neighborhood Association and Duboce Triangle Neighborhood Association are partnering to hold a Neighborhood Supervisor's Debate with candidates Bill Hemenger, Rafael Mandelman, Rebecca Prozan, and Scott Weiner. It promises to be a lively and informative event.

DISTRICT 8 SUPERVISOR FORUM, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 7 PM

LGBT Center Rainbow Room 1800 Market Street.

Castro/Eureka Valley Neighborhood Association is partnering with San Francisco Young Democrats, Alice B Toklas LGBT Club and Harvey Milk Democratic Club as sponsors of a District 8 Supervisor's Forum to be broadcast live online and hosted on sfgate.com. All four major candidates have been invited. Reception at 5:30, debate promptly at 6:30.

UPPER MARKET PLANNING COMMUNITY FORUM

MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 6:30 – 8 PM

As discussed at our May 2010 meeting, Castro/EVNA is part of a coalition of seven neighborhood organizations working to create consistency and improve zoning rules on Upper Market between Noe & Castro. Planning Department staff and coalition members will present the proposed changes and gather community input. Visit EVNA.org for more information.

JOIN EVNA

online at <http://evna.org/join> or via check payable to EVNA,

PO Box 14137, San Francisco, CA 94114

Individual: \$20.00 Household (2 people): \$30.00
 Business: \$40.00

Name(s)

Organization/Business:

Address:

City:

Zip:

Phone:

E-mail(s):

EV/PA is a California non-profit public benefit corporation