What will life be like in San Francisco in the year 2035? Over the next 15 months, the San Francisco County Transportation Authority (SFCTA) intends to find out—particularly as it pertains to transportation. The SFCTA is in the process of updating its long-range comprehensive transportation plan, otherwise known as the San Francisco Transportation Plan (SFTP), which identifies goals, needs and investment priorities for the city’s transportation system over the next 25 years.

San Francisco is facing significant growth in jobs and population, and our challenge is to develop a transportation plan that will accommodate this growth while protecting the city's quality of life and unique character. Toward that end, we have established four goals for the SFTP:

1. Provide and sustain a world-class transportation infrastructure
2. Strengthen San Francisco’s regional competitiveness
3. Create a more livable and equitable city
4. Ensure a healthy environment

Long-range planning like the SFTP gives us an opportunity to reduce or avoid the impacts of regional growth through new transportation investments and services and management options. The SFTP planning process consists of four phases. We are currently concluding the first phase - defining existing transportation conditions and projecting future conditions - and the upcoming milestones include:

- Phase 2 (March-June 2011): Clarify specific needs and projects, initiatives and policy options.
- Phase 3 (July-October 2011): Define & evaluate project alternatives.
- Phase 4 (November 2011-March 2012): Select a preferred alternative and develop an implementation strategy.

Work on the SFTP is being overseen by a Technical Advisory Committee consisting of public agency representatives and a Community Advisory Committee representing diverse interests and neighborhoods. We also want to hear from you! Attend the Wednesday, January 26 Castro/EVNA Membership meeting to learn more and visit these websites:

- Fill out our survey on SF’s transportation conditions and needs at www.surveymonkey.com/s/sftp.
- Attend public workshops to provide your feedback and learn more. Visit www.movesmartsf.com for more information.
- Email MoveSmartSF@sftca.org or call (415) 593-1670 for additional information or to request a presentation to your neighborhood/civic organization.

A MESSAGE FROM OUTGOING SUPERVISOR BEVAN DUFFY

First, thank you EVNA for the opportunity to express my appreciation.

As the oldest neighborhood association, EVNA was my training ground going back to the late 90’s and my becoming Director of Neighborhood Services for Mayor Brown. Lion Barnett demonstrated to me that a single, informed individual could act effectively as an ombudsman for a myriad of City issues and departments. Lion was gracious but firm in his views and holding the City accountable.

Since then, I’ve been able to work with many EVNA leaders and members, including our new Supervisor Scott Wiener. I wasn’t sure how it would feel to watch the January 8th swearing-in and Board meeting, but it was fun and Scott was spectacular. Poised, well spoken and a gentleman.

All of the Board members will enjoy a much more open and collegial experience without the rancor, vitriol and personal attacks that came out of Supervisor Daly’s weekly tool box.

EVNA has been an important partner in making the Castro sustainable. We have been a diverse, but largely Gay, neighborhood for two generations. And we are cautioned that this character has not been maintained in other neighborhoods, such as the Village and Chelsea in New York.

When EVNA took a strong position at Planning that expanding Walgreen’s on 18th Street was not good for the commercial district or neighborhood, it allowed me to negotiate with Walgreen’s for a 5-year below market lease for the GLBT Historical Society. I am so happy that we will have this large exhibition and lecture space. Anchoring cultural institutions and expanding child care are part of the Castro’s sustainability, especially with their rise of LGBT-led families here. Judy Hoyem’s dedicated presence on land-use issues for EVNA helped bring this creative solution about ensuring a home in the Castro for the Historical Society (glbthistory.org).

I’ve had the job of a lifetime. And now I’m embarked upon the adventure and challenge of a lifetime offering myself as a candidate for Mayor (bevandufy.com).

Let me conclude by thanking your President Alan Beach-Nelson who has brought his presence, passion and informed perspective to this generation of neighborhood leadership. And he stayed on me to get this article done! Thanks Alan and see everyone in the neighborhood!
President’s Column
Alan Beach-Nelson

As 2010 has just come to a close, Castro/EVNA bids farewell to Supervisor Bevan Dufty who has served EVNA for 8 years, working hard to improve the neighborhood - Thank You! Best of luck to Bevan as he campaigns to be the first Gay Mayor of San Francisco.

We also bid farewell to Demian Quesnel, who has been a wonderful asset to EVNA, serving on many committees and taking leadership roles, most recently as Treasurer.

EVNA wishes to thank our volunteers for the Castro/Street Fair. Over 30 people contributed 60 volunteer hours. Your hard work paid off! We received a check for over $1,450. Thank you also to Castro Street Fair board for inviting EVNA to participate.

As we kick off 2011, Castro/EVNA heartily welcomes two new Board Members: Jerry Cooper, proprietor of neighborhood gem, Swirl on Castro, and Aaron Seivertson, from Hartford Street who has been active on EVNA’s Community Awareness Committee working with Rob Cox.

We also welcome Scott Wiener, and former EVNA President, as our new Supervisor. We are thrilled to continue to work with Scott to improve the neighborhood.

We invite YOU to kick off 2011 by getting involved with YOUR neighborhood association! Attend our membership meeting, Wednesday, January 26, at 7PM.

We’ll learn about SF’s Transportation Plan update and the idea of Parklets. Hope to see you there, and if not, then around the ‘hood - feel free to stop and say hello!

A MESSAGE FROM NEW DISTRICT 8 SUPERVISOR
Scott Wiener

I’m honored to be serving as your representative on the Board of Supervisors. Thank you for giving me the opportunity. I was sworn in on January 8, and I’ve hit the ground running. One of my first votes was to elect Ed Lee as Mayor of San Francisco. I’ve known Mayor Lee for a long time, and I have immense respect for his abilities and dedication to our City. No one knows San Francisco government better than Ed, and I have confidence in his ability to get things done.

Supervisor David Chiu, president of the Board of Supervisors, has assigned me to the Land Use and Budget Committees. As a result, I’ll be very involved in some of the most critical decisions impacting our City -- how we allocate our budget and how we utilize our scarce land. I’m looking forward to the challenge. Transportation is also a top priority for me, including stabilizing Muni, getting more cabs on the street, and taking better care of our roads.

My office is also working on several projects in the neighborhood. I’d like to move forward on implementation of the Upper Market Plan, starting with changes at the Noe/16th/Market intersection to make it more pedestrian-friendly. In addition, I’ve asked the Municipal Transportation Agency to look at possible traffic signal changes at 18th and Castro to make both pedestrian and vehicular traffic flow better.

If you ever need anything or have questions, feel free to contact my office at 554-6968. I look forward to working together to make our community a better place.