

the Potrero Community Voice

Published Monthly by the Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Association

March 2001

Meeting Information for February 27
Potrero Hill Library Upper Meeting Room
1616 20th Street at Connecticut Street

6:30 PM Refreshments and Social
7:00 PM Booster Business Meeting
8:00 PM Guest Speaker: Supervisor
Sophie Maxwell

New Potrero Power Plant Proposed

Mirant Corporation (formerly Southern Company) has sought permission from the California Energy Commission (CEC) to construct a new generating unit at the existing Potrero Power Plant site near Pier 70. The power plant currently has four units, with a total maximum output of 362 megawatts. The proposed new unit would be a natural gas-fired, combined cycle power plant that would produce an additional 530 megawatts of power. This additional power output will also result in increased pollution, and unless mitigating measures are implemented, could result in increased health problems for many District 10 neighborhoods.

The year-long permit process for the proposed facility began in October 2000. It examines public health and safety, air and water quality, hazardous materials, land use, and design. Already four months along, the process is stringent and moves quickly, with very limited time for the public to provide feedback and concerns. The environmental impacts are "mitigated" through "offsets." **The real problem is that those offsets may not be located in our neighborhood, or even San Francisco!** For example, mitigation for air pollution from the power plant could be conversion of a diesel garbage truck fleet to natural gas in Livermore!

A Potrero Power Plant Citizens Advisory Task Force has been created by the Board of Supervisors; Sarah Ames, Robert Bioleau, John Borg, Joe Boss, Babette Drefke, Jim Firth and Dick Millet are members of this task force. Philip DeAndrade, also representing Potrero Hill, chairs this task force. The task force is grappling with how best to participate in this process. Members of the public, including Potrero Hill residents, are also invited to participate in this process and may do so by either contacting the CEC directly or by attending community meetings that are being sponsored by the CEC.

The Boosters have become "interveners" in the process. Interveners have the right to present evidence and witnesses, the opportunity to obtain information from the other parties, the right to cross-examine the witnesses of the other parties at public hearings, and the right to receive all documents filed in the case. Intervener evidence is used by the Commission as the basis for any part of the final decision including mitigation.

Public participation is the only way that our neighborhood can ensure that a) we are not subjected to increased pollution and health risks and b) we receive appropriate local mitigation action by Mirant. Get involved. Attend the public hearings. Donations of time and money will help the Boosters get the most out of the tedious work required to protect the health and safety of Hill and city residents.

The Citizens Advisory Task Force meets on the fourth Thursday of the month at 4 p.m. in Room 82 at City Hall, but will be sponsoring a **special community meeting on the Hill on Thursday, March 15th at 6:30pm at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House**. For more information on this meeting contact Sarah Ames at 552-4636. For more information on CEC meetings, the process in general, or to express your concerns contact Marc Pryor, Energy Commission Project Manager, at (916) 653-0159, or go to the CEC's Web site at www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/potrero.

– Sarah Ames & Joe Boss

President's Message

It has been a refreshing change over the last few weeks to go to City Hall. What a different feeling to find the opinion of the Boosters and other neighborhood groups being listened to and welcomed by the Board of Supervisors. Not to say it is not hectic there with all the new supervisors and their staffs trying to learn the process. It actually feels like the neighborhoods belong there as part of the decision making process.

On February 12th we finally got the beginning of what we have been asking, begging, demanding and crying for the past two years, a moratorium on loft developments. This six-month breathing space gives us room to work with other impacted neighborhoods to design a plan for smart growth. We need your help in this process.

The Boosters want a plan to be developed for our community and the other frontline neighborhoods (Mission, SOMA, Bayview and others). As our most recent resolution on planning issues stated, "Boosters pledge our cooperation and good faith in aiding the development of affordable housing, continued employment, economic prosperity, and a healthy environment for Potrero Hill dwellers and all our neighbors throughout San Francisco."

Another development on February 12th was that the Mayor announced that a land swap deal has been arranged with the Esprit Corporation to save Esprit Park. Talk about a double header day!!

As reported by Edward Epstein in the Chronicle (2/9/01): *"In a dramatic sign that times have changed at San Francisco City Hall, the city's top booster of loft housing was tossed from a committee meeting yesterday before supervisors stopped – at least temporarily – the rampant live-work developments over the raucous objections of hundreds of builders."*

Give you a hint: his first name was Joe!

Whenever I drop by Sophie Maxwell's office at City Hall there are always volunteers working. Booster past President Dick Millet has been seen there twice a week. Neighborhood people from all parts of District 10 have been helping get the office started. The presence of neighborhood volunteers can be seen in all the new supervisors' offices. This really helps connect City Hall to the neighborhoods.

– John deCastro, President

Calling all Party People: It's party time!! Help make the Booster 75th Anniversary Party a real success. Mark your calendar now for the evening of May 29th at a special Potrero Hill historical location. We need your help and it doesn't involve going to City Hall!

Contact Chair Audrey Cole at 648-1926 or audrey@audreyc Cole.com

City Planning - February 2001

BLDG. PERMIT APPLICATION #200008319460: 1470 DE HARO ST. Propose to build 9 ft. high 2-car garage in front of existing single family house. Contact: Susan Snyder, Planner, ph: 558.6543.

BLDG. PERMIT APPLICATION #200002081370S: 174 CONNECTICUT/17th STS. Propose to build 40 ft. high 30-unit Condo over 3 car garage on vacant RH-3 lot. 14 ft. 8 in. front setback, 25 ft. rear yard. The 3rd story sets back 8 ft. from 2nd story, the 4th story sets back 6 ft. from the 3rd story. Contact: Judy Martin, Planner, ph: 558-6616.

BLDG. PERMIT APPLICATION #200005028856: 2198 THIRD/19th STS. Propose to DEMOLISH existing BLDG. and build 50 ft. high, 24 unit, 23 car LIVE/WORK bldg with 4,587 sq. ft. commercial space and a 20 ft. court in the rear. Contact: Mat Snyder, Planner, ph: 575-6891.

PRELIM. NEG. DEC. Case # 2000,075E: 1380 25th ST. and 1050 IOWA ST. Propose to build 4-40 ft. high BLDG.s with w/24,840 sq. ft. office/studios, 24,140 sq. ft. warehouse showrooms, 5,060 sq. ft. retail space, 55 parking spaces & 2 loading docks in M-1(IPZ) zone. Contact: Lisa Gibson, ph: 558-5993.

BLDG. PERMIT APPLICATION #200010304383: 1010 PENNSYLVANIA AVE/25th ST. Propose to build 40 ft. high. 2-unit, 2 car Condo on vacant RH-2 lot w/7 ft. front setback, 33 ft. yard. Contact: D. Sider, Planner, ph: 558-6891.

PRELIM. NEG. DEC. Case # 2000.333#: 639 MISSOURI/SIERRA STS. Propose to build PUD with 118 Condo units, 8,670 sq. ft. retail space, 6,274 sq. ft. office/studio space, 139 car garage & one loading dock in M-1 (IPZ Buffer) zone. Requires Conditional Use. Contact: Joy Navarrete, ph: 558-5975.

BLDG. PERMIT APPLICATION #200011014606S: 507 KANSAS/17th STS. Propose to build vertical & rear addition to existing single family house. Bldg height remains 21 ft, rear yard reduced to 37 feet. Contact: Judy Martin, Planner, ph: 558-6616.

BLDG. PERMIT APPLICATION #200005301228: 194 CONNECTICUT/17th STS. Propose to rebuild 3-story stair & utility room, add stair access to roof from 3rd floor and gable at rear. Contact: Susan Snyder, Planner, ph: 558-6543.

PUBLIC HEARING at Planning Commission after 1:30pm (Th) 22 February. Case #2000.1165B, 2 HENRY ADAMS (Kansas)/ALAMEDA STS. Propose to convert 49,900 sq. ft. wholesale design showroom to OFFICE space in M-2 (IPZ) zone. Contact: Ricardo Bressanutti, Planner, ph: 575-6892.

- ◆ Potrero Power Plant Community Meeting
Thursday, March 15th at 6:30 pm at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House
- ◆ San Francisco General Hospital Community Meeting
Topic: Proposed Expansion of Hospital
March 6, Tuesday 7:00 PM
Cafeteria, 2nd Floor SF General Hospital

Community Resources

MAYOR Willie Brown ph: 554-6141 fax 554-6160 damayor@ci.sf.ca.us
City Hall 1 Goodlett Place Rm 200 SF Ca 94102
Web site: http://www.ci.sf.ca.us

S.F. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:		City Hall Rm 244		
Supervisor	Dist.	ph (544-)	fax(544-)	e-mail address
Ammiano, Tom	9	5144	6255	Tom_Ammiano@ci.sf.ca.us
Chris Daly	6	7970	7974	Chris_Daly@ci.sf.ca.us
Gonzalez, Matt	5	7630	7634	Matt_Gonzalez@ci.sf.ca.us
Hall, Tony	7	6516	6546	Tony_Hall@ci.sf.ca.us
Leno, Mark	8	7734	7739	Mark_Leno@ci.sf.ca.us
Maxwell, Sophie*	10	7670	7674	Sophie_Maxwell@ci.sf.ca.us
McGoldrick, Jake	1	7410	7415	Jake_McGoldrick@ci.sf.ca.us
Newsom, Gavin	2	5942	5946	Gavin_Newsom@ci.sf.ca.us
Peskin, Aaron	3	7450	7454	Aaron_Peskin@ci.sf.ca.us
Sandoval, Gerardo	11	6975	6979	Gerardo_Sandoval@ci.sf.ca.us
Yee, Leland	4	7752	7751	Leland_Yee@ci.sf.ca.us

* Supervisor for District 10 which includes Potrero Hill.

DEPT of CITY PLANNING Gerald Green, Director
1660 Mission Street, 5th fir, SF, CA 94103
ph: 558-6411 fax 554-6409

BAYVIEW POLICE STATION 201 Williams St, SF 94124
ph: 671-2300 fax 671-2345
ph: 671-2300 fax: 671-2345
http://www.ci.sf.ca.us/police

POTHOLES ph: 695-2100 FAX 695-2097
PARKING AND TRAFFIC : 553-1200 (General); 553-1200 (Blocked Driveways); 553-9817 (Abandoned Cars)

GRAFFITTI OR DAMAGED BUS SHELTER: 882-4949

ILLEGAL DUMPING: 641-2300

Potrero Boosters Executive Board

President	John De Castro	864-6789
Vice President	Sarah Ames	552-4636
Recording Secretary	Dick Millet	861-0345
Corresponding Secretary	Paul Minton	648-6700
Treasurer	Denis Moore	824-0922
Sargeant at Arms	Joe Boss	647-1727
Auditors	Ellen Kernaghan	824-5065

The Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Association is devoted to issues of particular importance to the Potrero Hill neighborhood. Our goals are to act as a forum for concerned Potrero residents and to participate actively in policy and development decisions that affect the quality of life here on the Hill. Change happens! Influence it!

Meetings are the last Tuesday of the month (7:00 p.m. at the Potrero Branch Library upstairs meeting room) and are open to everyone. Please come to the meetings and please become a Booster member!

Dues: Individual \$25, Household (couple) \$30, Senior \$20, Business \$30. Mail check to Potrero Boosters, 1459 18th St., #133, San Francisco, CA 94107.

Enclosed is \$ _____ for _____ membership(s). Contributions \$ _____ New _____ Renewal _____

Name(s) _____

(Business) _____

Address _____

e-mail _____ Prefer e-mail newsletter (Y/N)? _____

Home phone _____ Business phone _____

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