in the works
February 2018

Volunteers tackle litter on Alemany Boulevard during February's Community Clean Team workday in District 11.
3/10 & 3/14

**Better Market Street Public Meetings**

Join us to learn more about Better Market Street, a multi-agency proposal to transform 2.2 miles of Market Street, from Octavia Boulevard to The Embarcadero, by improving safety and accessibility, providing faster and more reliable bus and streetcar service and enhancing the streetscape and public realm.

**Saturday, March 10, 2018**
10 a.m.-noon
UC Hastings College of the Law Alumni Reception Center
200 McAllister St.

**Wednesday, March 14, 2018**
6-8 p.m.
UC Hastings College of the Law Louis B. Mayer Lounge
198 McAllister St.

3/17

**Arbor Day Event and Eco Fair**
Volunteer with Community Clean Team in District 1

Community Clean Team is San Francisco Public Works’ longest-running and largest volunteer program that keeps San Francisco beautiful through landscaping and gardening projects, graffiti removal and litter cleanup in our neighborhoods. Community Clean Team, in partnership with the Giant Sweep anti-litter campaign, needs your help to keep our city clean and green in 2018. Join us and volunteer!

8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Washington High School
600 - 32nd Ave.

3/17

**Listen to African-American employees at Public Works share stories of their achievements and challenges during a Black History Month celebration at our Operations Yard on Feb. 15, 2018.**
Saturday, March 17, 2018
9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Arbor Day
ECO FAIR!
Washington High School | 600 – 32nd Avenue

For more details:
volunteer@sfdpw.org
(415) 641-2600

Free family fun for all ages!

face painting
carnival games
planter building
goats
x more!
Congratulations to our Mansell Project Team for winning the 2018 Outstanding Local Streets and Roads Project Award in the Complete Streets Projects category!
HEART HAPPY HABITS

25% of deaths in the U.S. occur from heart disease

1,458,000 people in California have coronary heart disease

Laughing is good for your heart.
It reduces stress and gives a boost to your immune system.

10 MINUTES EACH = 30 MINUTES OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Get more steps!
Dance to 3 of your favorite songs
Go for a bike ride

Eating more almonds and dark chocolate helps lower bad cholesterol.

Your heart pumps 1.5 gallons of blood/minute

“Love you to the moon and back!”
In a lifetime, the heart creates enough energy to drive a truck to the moon and back.

A normal heart valve is the size of a half dollar

Hearts of two people in love will begin to synchronize after the couple has gazed into each other’s eyes for three minutes

The thump-thump of a heartbeat is the sound made by the four valves of the heart closing

Your heart affects every part of your body. That also means that diet, lifestyle and your emotional well-being can affect your heart. Emotional and physical health are both important for maintaining a healthy heart.
In celebration of Black History Month, we're highlighting the accomplishments of the outstanding black leaders and staff who are a part of our Public Works family. They shared their stories of challenges and achievements at a panel discussion held at our Operations Yard on Feb. 15.
EPISODE 0015 - 2/16
A New Life for Old Lefty

It's not every day that urban Americans get to see a drawbridge at work. But here in San Francisco, the historic Lefty O'Doul Third Street Bridge has been performing the engineering feat for generations. And San Francisco Public Works is making sure the workhorse span has an enduring future.

EPISODE 0014 - 2/9
We ♥ SF

Nestled in San Francisco's 47 square miles are thousands of parks, alleyways, roads, buildings and attractions that both visitors and locals alike hold close to their hearts – and this week our Public Works TV hosts are taking us to their favorite San Francisco spots. Come along!

EPISODE 0013 - 2/2
Paws-itively Clean!
Lunar New Year Blitz

Happy Year of the Dog! Ride along with Public Works Director Mohammed Nuru as he takes us around Chinatown to demonstrate the massive efforts to get this neighborhood ready for the Chinese New Year.

Gung Hay Fat Choy!
Navigating Toward Hope
Navigating Toward Hope

San Francisco’s game-changing Navigation Centers are proving to be a successful model to provide shelter and services for homeless people living in.
Rendering for the Bayshore Navigation Center.

Rendering for the Division Circle Navigation Center.

Rendering for the Fifth and Bryant Navigation Center.
street encampments, offering them not just beds, showers and meals, but also health care, intensive case management and other support on their journey toward more stable housing.

The first Navigation Center opened in the spring of 2015 in the Mission District, with three others following in Mid-Market, Dogpatch and another location in the Mission.

Today, work is underway to develop three more Navigation Centers. Two of them will be on undeveloped Caltrans property at Fifth and Bryant streets and at Division Circle at Division and South Van Ness Avenue. The third will open at what is now a vacant warehouse and office complex at 125 Bayshore Blvd. in the Bayview. The designs are welcoming and innovative.

Public Works’ Bureau of Design and Construction is taking the lead on designing the new Navigation Centers; our partner, the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing, will oversee them. The goal is to have all of them up and running by mid-summer. Together, they will shelter more than 300 people.

Unlike traditional shelters, Navigation Centers allow people to move in with their partners, pets and belongings and give them a respite from the perils of living on the street. And that is a good thing. Public Works is proud to be part of the solution.
Planting Community in a New Edible Garden
A narrow strip of undeveloped land along Geneva and Delano avenues has blossomed into an inviting and edible community garden.
The Geneva Community Garden, a 10,427-square-foot community space near Balboa Park, features raised garden boxes with room for 60 garden plots, perimeter walls, protective fencing, gates, ample seating and multi-use gathering areas. The garden is equipped with nine ADA-accessible planter boxes and fully accessible common areas, including an herb garden and orchard.

Public Works was instrumental in guiding the process to transform the space that was once overgrown by invasive ivy and pampas grass. Our talented landscape architecture and engineering teams created the garden’s welcoming design and partnered with the local contractor Giron to oversee its construction. The design of the community garden features beautifully landscaped areas that promote green space stewardship and sustainability.

The Geneva Community Garden is the 40th addition to the citywide community garden program that was implemented by the Recreation and Park Department more than a decade ago. A community garden is a public space where friends, families and neighbors can grow produce for their personal use and come together to celebrate the beauty of Mother Nature.

These gardens satisfy more than our healthy appetites. In fact, they have many different benefits that help maintain healthy ecological systems for large cities like San Francisco. They have been proven to reduce the urban heat-island effect; decrease storm-water runoff and help with nitrogen processing, pest control and energy savings.

The $1.6 million community-driven project was paid for by the voter-backed 2008 Clean and Safe Neighborhood Parks Bond, in addition to secondary grants from the state Department of Housing and Community Development and a handful of local community stakeholders.

As the weather starts to warm up for spring, we encourage you to visit the Geneva Community Garden or any of the other community gardens scattered across the City! Click here for the locations and to get on the waitlist for a planter box of your very own.
District 11 Supervisor Ahsha Safai and Public Works and Rec and Park staffers, along with dozens of green enthusiasts and community members, celebrated the grand opening of the garden on Feb. 24. The joyous celebration featured an inaugural tree planting, a raffle and games and a communal potluck lunch.

As the weather starts to warm up for spring, we encourage you to visit the Geneva Community Garden or any of the other community gardens scattered across the City! Click here for the locations and to get on the waitlist for a planter box of your very own.
Hundreds of thousands of revelers lined San Francisco streets from the Financial District to Chinatown to Union Square watching this year’s Chinese New Year Parade celebrating the Year of the Dog. In all, we had 53 workers following the parade, which took place on Feb. 24. They picked up 14,800 pounds of trash along the parade route – a 7-hour stint that started at 6 p.m. Saturday and ended 1 a.m. Sunday. The post-parade cleanups are like a well-choreographed dance, with each worker playing an important part.

They use brooms, rakes, blowers, steamers and trucks to pick up the debris and wash down the streets within hours after the crowds have dispersed.

Chinese New Year Parade Cleanup a Howling Success
A Sweeping Success
A Sweeping Success

Public Works’ quest to keep Chinatown clean continues.

A Chinese Newcomers Service Center worker keeps a Chinatown sidewalk litter-free.
Our crews began an intensive cleaning operation throughout the historic neighborhood in the weeks leading up to the Lunar New Year festivities—and workers will remain on the job seven days a week to ensure the streets and sidewalks keep looking good.

To help meet that goal, we established a workforce development partnership with the Chinese Newcomers Service Center, a nonprofit organization that specializes in helping new Chinese immigrants and local residents obtain job training, social services and employment opportunities.

Seven trained block sweepers who wear orange vests and use a cart to hold a small trash can and cleaning tools, are focusing on nothing but removing cigarette butts, old newspapers, discarded coffee cups and other litter that sully the heart of the iconic neighborhood.

This 3-month pilot program aims to cover the Chinatown neighborhood bounded by Powell, Kearny, Sacramento and Broadway streets.

The Chinese Newcomers block sweepers are on duty from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., seven days a week. Each trainee is assigned to focus primarily on one major street. Their job is to walk up and down the blocks to manually sweep sidewalks, constantly removing trash. Larger, more intensive cleaning needs will be handled by our more experienced crews.

Public Works' seasoned street cleaning staff provided hands-on training, from safety to sweeping tips, to ensure the new sweepers keep the sidewalks in Chinatown clean, safe and litter free.

"Chinese Newcomers Service Center is thrilled to work with Public Works to keep Chinatown clean and help businesses maintain tidy storefronts," said Amanda Fung, the group's program coordinator. "Workforce development is one of the key focuses our agency is concentrating on and we offer job training, classes and work-skills development opportunities to Chinese immigrants with the ultimate goal of landing employment and making decent wages."

Public Works is excited about this partnership, which provides job opportunities and enhanced cleaning in one of the nation's most densely packed neighborhoods that is popular with both locals and tourists.
SF Neighborhood Pride Hits Its Stride
At Community Clean Team Workday
Young volunteers get into the Community Clean Team spirit, celebrating the success of a morning's work.
Pride Hits Its Stride

Community Clean Team volunteers worked their magic in the Excelsior, Outer Mission and other District 11 neighborhoods this month,
Balboa High School students work alongside a Public Works employee to shine the commemorative class plaques on the campus courtyard.
The bags filled fast during the litter pickup along Alemany Boulevard.
weeding medians, painting our graffiti and picking up litter. Even the metal “Class of” plaques embedded in the courtyard at Balboa High School got a special shine.

The event drew hundreds of enthusiastic volunteers, from preschoolers to seniors, who pitched in to improve our city. Supervisor Ahsha Safai, who represents the area, helped us kick off the workday.

Community Clean Team is our largest and longest-running volunteer program. Each month we’re in a different supervisorial district to green and clean the neighborhoods. After the work is complete, we share a meal, for Community Clean Team is as much about getting the work done as it is about building community.

At next month’s Community Clean Team on March 17 in the Richmond District, we’ll also be hosting our annual Arbor Day Eco Fair. It will be packed with family-fun activities, including bucket-truck rides, face painting, planter box building and the ever-popular herd of friendly goats. The workday kickoff and Eco Fair will be held at Washington High School, 600-32nd Avenue.

You can register to volunteer here or by calling 415-641-2600. All activities are free. We hope to see you there.
With a can-do attitude, corridor worker Hank Rivera tackles a bombardment of litter at 16th/Mission.