Firefighters from Station No. 5 celebrate construction of their future home base at a ceremonial beam-signing event.
2/2
Groundhog Day

Volunteer with Community Clean Team in District 11

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.
Balboa High School
1000 Cayuga Ave.

2/10
Volunteer with Community Clean Team in District 11

2/14
Helen Diller Civic Center Playgrounds Grand Opening

Join the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department for the opening celebration of the Helen Diller Civic Center Playgrounds! Everyone is invited to celebrate the opening of these creative play spaces with interactive lighting in the heart of the City.

4 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Civic Center Plaza
Larkin Street at Fulton Street

2/16
Chinese New Year

2/24
Chinese New Year Parade

5:15 p.m.
Starts at Market and Second streets

2/19
Presidents' Day
Thank you so much for coming out to my house this morning and discussing my sewer line with me. You provided so much helpful information. You are a great wealth of knowledge and it was so nice of you to take time from your busy schedule to educate me.

Paula K.

Thank you for filling the street cracks along Ellis Street. Tony and his crew were exceptional and we are optimistic that this will take care of the water intrusion into our basement.

Hotel Abri is proud to be a part of a community that provides excellent service and support!

Chris B.

Yesterday, I had to deal with a potentially very costly and stressful problem, but had the honor and pleasure to work with many people at Public Works who rallied behind me and did everything they could to help.

The leader of this mission was a gentleman by the name of Ernie Banks (who works for the Public Works mapping division). I can’t begin to tell you what an outstanding individual he is. He was knowledgeable, pleasant, patient and thorough. He knew what to do and personally got involved to make sure my challenging problem was correctly resolved despite the very limited time frame. What a fantastic employee you have!

Bottom line: Not only have I met a fantastic employee but I have changed my opinion of the City because of him.

Thank you for hiring him.

Ann S.

I wanted to write to let you know that we were very pleased with the pruning of our Chinese elm tree in front of our house. Your arborist directed the pruning of the tree over the course of a couple of days and did a great job improving the tree's form, removing limbs in the wires and reducing the weight of the canopy. They also did a very thorough cleanup, completing the work within a couple of weeks of the 311 request. Kudos to your urban forestry group. I am very glad that the City took the trees back – they are a real resource and the City will do a much better job pruning them than the homeowners!

Michael L.

We would like to thank your staff for the beautiful new handrailings recently installed on the Golden Gate Heights staircase. They are a big improvement and we use them every time we use the steps.

Additionally, we would like to thank the City for the "No Parking" sign that was installed last month at the bottom of the steps. I wrote a request for a new sign last year because the old one was so faded it was practically unreadable.

We also appreciate your crews keeping the stairs clear of overgrowth from the surrounding greenery.

Thanks for your great service and our best wishes to everyone.

Vivian and Michael B.
HAPPY HABITS
START THE NEW YEAR OFF WITH HAPPINESS!

Our happiness is generally determined by:

- 40% thoughts, actions and behaviors
- 10% the circumstances
- 50% our genetics

HAPPINESS SIDE EFFECTS:
- lower risk of heart disease
- better immunity
- more likely to eat healthier
- heal faster after injury
- higher chance of longevity

HOW TO GET HAPPY:
express gratitude  help others  build relationships  try something new

Happiness is maximized at 57°F
Happy employees are 12% more productive

Word of the month:
DELECTATION  noun - dělekˈtāShən  PLEASURE & DELIGHT

David brought three dozen home-baked chocolate cupcakes topped with fresh vanilla frosting and sprinkles for his co-workers’ delectation.
Follow us at sfpublicworks for a unique perspective on San Francisco – from the eyes of those who work hard to keep the City clean, green and beautiful.

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

Gung Hay Fat Choy!
Mr. Clean SF, a.k.a Public Works Director Mohammed Nuru checks out the Dragons Gate mural on Trenton Street during a recent visit to meet up with cleaning crews in Chinatown.
Fighting Fire with Resiliency: Building a Seismically Sound Fire Station

Firefighters check out the work in progress at the new Station No. 5, walking gingerly across structural cables.
Construction of the new resilient San Francisco Fire Station No. 5 in the Western Addition reached a major milestone that was marked with a celebration this month led by
A rendering of what the new fire station will look like.
Milestone met: Steel frame for new fire station completed.
Board of Supervisors
President London Breed,
Fire Chief Joanne Hayes-
White, Public Works
Director Mohammed Nuru
and community leaders.

At the Jan. 26 event, a
ceremonial final steel
column was signed to
commemorate the progress
made on the District 5
neighborhood fire station.

Crews completed work on
the steel frame for the first-
responder facility at 1301
Turk St. and are on track
to deliver the voter-backed
project for a fall 2018
move-in. Work to date has
included demolition of
the original 1950s-era fire
station; hazardous-material
abatement; removal of
underground fuel tanks;
and completion of the
steel-frame structure.

Upon completion, the
modern facility will include
resilient life-safety systems,
ADA accessibility features,
a new fuel dispensing
system, a modern
communications room and
improved living quarters –
built to be fully operational
following an earthquake or
other major disaster.

The new station will
house 11 firefighters each
day, with a total of 55
firefighters stationed at the
state-of-the-art facility. It
will house one fire engine,
one ladder truck and one
division chief.

In 2017, Station 5
personnel responded to
more than 6,000 emergency
calls. Since 2012, they have
responded to a combined
41,362 fire and medical
calls.

Public Works designed and
is overseeing construction
on the 21,193 square-
foot fire station, which is
expected to receive LEED
Gold certification for
energy and water efficiency,
and the general contractor
for the project is Alten
Construction.

The $14.8 fire station
replacement project is being
funded by the Earthquake
Safety and Emergency
Response (ESER) Bond
Program, an initiative
to bolster earthquake
safety and emergency
response resiliency through
capital improvements
on critical infrastructure,
including fire, police and
ambulance facilities, and
the emergency fire-fighting
water system.

The ESER Bond Program
is a component of the
City’s Ten-Year Capital
Plan – a blueprint
prioritizing key capital
projects that impact public
safety.
Public Works, Fire Department, community leaders and City officials signed a steel beam at the new fire station, a construction milestone ritual.
The Ups and Downs of the Third Street Bridge
Construction crews completed the first phase of rehabilitation work on the historic Third Street Bridge, which involved preliminary counterweight repairs.
During construction, the bridge was raised and locked in the full upright position, closing off access to all vehicles, bicyclists and pedestrians. Work began on Dec. 11, 2017, and was completed on Jan. 22, 2018 – four days ahead of schedule.

Cal State Constructors, Inc. crews performed the construction work. Public Works owns the Depression-era span, which is designated City Landmark No. 194.

The historic drawbridge, also known as the Lefty O’Doul Bridge, crosses the Mission Creek Channel, connecting the China Basin and Mission Bay neighborhoods. It is located adjacent to AT&T Park.

The next phase of work on the bridge to address corrosion problems is anticipated to begin in late spring 2018 and last 18 months. Once construction work starts, the bridge will be locked in the down position. Access across the bridge for vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians will be maintained with at least one lane open in each direction, but access for maritime vessels sailing into or out of Mission Creek will not be available.

This is a unique project that will involve the use of underwater divers, barges, rafts, temporary installation of protective barriers and containment curtains.

Learn more about the project and to sign up for updates here.
2018 Community Clean Team Season Kicks Off with a Roar

Hundreds of volunteers turned out this month to kick off the 2018 season of Community Clean Team by greening and cleaning North Beach, Chinatown, Polk Gulch and other District 3 neighborhoods.
Community Season Kicks Off with a Roar

Hundreds of volunteers turned out this month to kick off the 2018 season of Community Clean Team by greening and cleaning North Beach, Chinatown, Polk Gulch and other District 3 neighborhoods.
The Jan. 20 event got underway at Portsmouth Square with a festive lion dance and marked the first of 11 Community Clean Team events this season. Each month, the program focuses on a different supervisorial district to spruce up public spaces and corridors.

Community Clean Team, now in its 18th season, is a legacy of the late Mayor Ed Lee, who started the civic pride program when he served as Public Works director.

The District 3 event, which Public Works co-hosted with Supervisor Aaron Peskin and then-Acting Mayor London Breed, drew 227 volunteers. They mulched planter boxes, spruced up tree basins, painted out graffiti, picked up litter and weeded medians, among other tasks to improve our neighborhoods.

Next month’s Community Clean Team heads to District 11 on Feb. 10 where volunteers and Public Works crews will focus
Public Works rolled out its Painted Lady Pit Stop portable toilet at Washington Square Park in North Beach for the Community Clean Team. Look for the whimsical commode at the Community Clean Team events throughout the year.
their attention on the Excelsior, Crocker Amazon and adjacent neighborhoods. Volunteers will gather at 8:30 a.m. at Balboa High School, 1000 Cayuga Ave. More information can be found here. And you can register online here.

The program’s success relies on the many sponsors and volunteer organizations that pitch in. They include 76, Starbucks, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Fix-It Team, Friends of the Urban Forest, PG&E, Emerald Fund, Recology, Academy of Art University, United Playaz, Walgreens, San Francisco Clean City Coalition, Local 261, San Francisco Parks Alliance, San Francisco Housing Authority, San Francisco Pretrial Diversion Project, San Francisco Recreation and Park Department, Community Youth Center San Francisco, San Francisco Unified School District, Tzu-Chi Foundation, SF Geo Care and SF Environment.
Eureka!
Eureka Street has been a major construction zone for nearly a year, with the installation of new sewer and water pipes, curb ramps and sidewalk and extensive road repair on the docket. This month, we are pleased to announce that we capped off the work with new paving that stretches from Market Street to 23rd street.

The Eureka project is just one of dozens on the books.

Anyone who lives in, works in or visits San Francisco knows that there’s a lot of work going on in the public right of way; by some estimates, one out of every 10 blocks has construction activity going on.

The upside: The City’s aging sewer and water systems are getting much-needed overhauls, potholed roads are being resurfaced and design changes are underway to make the streets safer as part of the Vision Zero initiative.

The downside: Construction impacts, such as traffic detours, temporary loss of parking, noise and dust, annoy the people we’re here to serve.

With that said, we hope to leave you with this takeaway: We appreciate your patience and your support, as we work to improve the City’s critical infrastructure.
Kilning with Kindness

Heath Ceramics, a family-owned ceramics factory best known for its craftsmanship and design, can add another description to its reputation: civic steward.

On Jan. 15, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, 40-plus Heath employees volunteered to pick up litter, wipe out graffiti and garden in the Mission District near their showroom at 18th and Alabama streets.

We at Public Works truly appreciate the time that local residents, nonprofits, service organizations, schools and businesses give to help make San Francisco a more livable city. We know we cannot do the job alone.

If you want to join the effort, we would welcome your participation. Our Community Programs team is here to help. We’ll provide supplies, training and support. Learn more [here].
Chinatown Blitz!

With paint brushes, scrapers, brooms and steamers, Public Works crews are hard at work in San Francisco’s bustling Chinatown this month deep cleaning the historic neighborhood in preparation for the Lunar New Year.
The pothole crew smooths out Pacific Avenue.
Our paint shop staff freshened the festive dragon lights in Chinatown.
We’re scouring away grease and grime from the sidewalks and public garbage cans with power washers; removing graffiti tags from the light poles and storefront rollup doors to maintain a fresh, clean look and feel in Chinatown as the busy days get started. Crews also are on hand picking up cigarette butts, old newspapers, coffee cups and other litter that sully the dynamic neighborhood.

Our Outreach and Enforcement (OnE) team is walking the Chinatown corridors to speak with merchants and property owners about code compliance to make sure they have proper garbage service, don’t leave cardboard boxes outside and keep their sidewalks safe and clean. The team also targets illegal dumping.

The night crew, meanwhile is giving the Broadway Tunnel a major scrubdown and the Public Works pothole crews are patching Chinatown's streets to keep them smooth for people who walk, bike and drive.

San Francisco’s Chinatown is not only the oldest Chinatown in North America, but the largest of its kind outside Asia. It also is one of the most densely populated neighborhoods in the United States. Keeping the vibrant area looking good takes extra effort. We’re in the neighborhood every day of the year, and have more crews on the ground in the weeks leading up to the New Year – Year of the Dog – which will be celebrated this year on Feb. 16, followed by the much-anticipated Chinese New Year Festival and Parade on Feb. 24.

The 2018 Year of the Dog symbolizes the element earth in the Chinese zodiac and characterizes loyalty and a determination to get the job done. That’s fitting for Public Works’ relationship not just with Chinatown but each and every neighborhood in the City.

We take pride in working diligently and in partnership with our residents and merchants to keep San Francisco clean and beautiful.

And on that note: Happy Year of the Dog! Gung Hay Fat Choy!
Community Corridor Ambassador Jason Quinones is doing his part to keep Valencia Street clean.