

**PRESIDIO TRUST PUBLIC BOARD MEETING – MAY 23, 2001**

**NOTE: The following is the best transcript available of the public board meeting of the Presidio Trust Board of Directors held on May 23, 2001. It is based upon an audio recording of the meeting.**

Toby Rosenblatt: Before we begin this meeting, could I ask if there is anybody in the audience who is aware of anybody else or anyone who could indicate whether they need assistance with sign language interpretation?  
Please raise your hand.

Apparently there is nobody. If you'll just take a seat for a little while, we'll check again in maybe half an hour or so, and you can monitor...  
Thank you.

Welcome, ladies and gentlemen. This is a board meeting of the Presidio Trust. Present among the board members are Mike Heyman, Jennifer Hernandez, Don Fisher, Amy Meyer, Bill Reilly, Mary Murphy and myself, Toby Rosenblatt. That will constitute the roll for the record.

I would like just to reiterate for everybody who's here, if you have occasion to be speaking on the record, please be sure to articulate

your name carefully. And if it's a little bit complicated please spell it, because this is being recorded, and the only way it gets initially on the public record is if you do that into the microphone.

Are these the young ladies from the Russian performing arts? Before we start our program, we have a special announcement.

Are they going to be able to reach that microphone? Or can we give them a microphone that works--that stretches?

Female voice: Hi, my name is Kiara.

Female voice: And my name is Erin Meneses.

Female voice: We invite you to the Presidio Community Night. It is on Wednesday, June 6, 2001 at 6:45 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

[applause]

Toby Rosenblatt: Mary? Could I lean on you to elaborate for folks just a little bit?

[laughter]

Mary Leader: I'm pleased to welcome you on behalf of the Presidio Trust and the Presidio Performing Arts Foundation to Community Night here at the Officers' Club, Wednesday, June 6. From 6:45 until 8:00 we will have a program by the children's dance group. It is free to the public. And after that we will have a special rate to enter the exhibition, \$8. That includes the audio headset. Any of you that may have seen these children perform at the opening of the "Unseen Treasures" exhibition, I know you'll want to return and encourage them. We're very lucky to have them here in the Presidio, and we're happy to support this program that's going on in the public schools. Thank you.

Toby Rosenblatt: Thank you. And that speaker--thank you--was Mary Leader.

You have in front, or you perhaps have seen the agenda for today's meeting. We will begin with a series of discussions and presentations by the Presidio Trust staff to the Presidio Trust Board and to members of the public describing several essential and really quite remarkable

programs, about which we, the board members, would like more education from our staff, and which we felt might be beneficial and interesting to you, the members of the public.

We're going to start with Bruce Anderson, our Deputy Director for Operations, and we will talk about the subjects of the programs under way about the environmental remediation, and then the Presidio wildlife environment here and the historic building rehabilitation. And we will then take questions from the audience with respect to those subjects.

If I could pause for just a minute, I've just realized something about the acoustics in this room, which are a little different than in the other room that we've been in. This is not meant to be disrespectful but just to warn all of you that those people who were just quietly whispering in the back, please remember the acoustics in this room are rather phenomenal.

[laughter]

Couldn't pick up everything you were saying, but probably more than you would've guessed.

[laughter]

So be careful or step outside.

Then we will deal with an action item with respect to the proposed Vegetation Management Plan, which is a brief matter dealing with the report from our staff and consideration by the board of a possible adoption with respect to the environmental evaluation of that document, which has been under circulation for many, many months now.

Then we'll take a short break and have a public comment period for those items or other things which you might want to address to the board.

As you have seen from the agenda, today's meeting is scheduled to end at 11:00, so if you are thinking that you might want to have items

for public comment, I would appreciate your doing two things. One is during the break, please sign up outside at the desk so that we have your name, address and subject that you might wish to address. And please take some time to prepare your remarks so that they can be contained within no longer than a two-minute period, so that out of courtesy to everybody else, everybody who wishes to speak will have that opportunity.

Okay. With that introduction, please, Bruce Anderson, Deputy Director for Operations for the Trust.

Bruce Anderson: I'd like to welcome everybody here today. I see some very familiar faces out there, and I really appreciate you all showing up to this meeting. The primary objective of the Trust is to preserve the Presidio as a sustainable national park. This is an effort that takes tremendous commitment not only from the Trust staff but from the Board of Directors, the National Park Service, the tenants and organizations in the park, and perhaps most importantly, the community.

Since today's presentation in part deals with environmental remediation, I would be remiss without acknowledging a Presidio Trust board member, Mary Murphy, whose hard work and dedication was instrumental in negotiating the funds to clean up the Presidio. And also, I'd like to recognize the co-chairman of the Restoration Advisory Board, Doug Kern. Doug, would you stand up and wave your hand?

With that, I would like to introduce the three speakers that we will have today. George Ford, environmental remediation; Terri Thomas, protecting wildlife; and Cherilyn Widell, historical preservation. So without further ado, I would like to introduce George Ford.

George Ford: Good morning. My name's George Ford, and I work in the environmental remediation department at the Presidio Trust. This morning I'm going to talk a little bit about the remedial program and what we've been doing for the last year and a half, and what we have coming up over the next seven to ten years.

The goal of the Trust environmental remediation program is essentially to work together with the public, the National Park Service and regulatory agencies to clean up the park to really the highest standards, which we think are the standards that are appropriate for a national park. The remediation program is often the first stepping stone to the process of overall environmental restoration here in the park.

Our goal is to pave the way for future restoration by performing cleanups that protect the park's unique views and cultural and natural resources. We have quite a few challenges in doing this. These photographs illustrate one of the cases. The debris that you can see in the center photograph is at one of the Baker Beach fill sites. These are fill sites where building rubble was dumped over the cliff on the Baker Beach side of the base. And you can see some of this rubble which is collected down near the beach at the bottom of the hill.

So we have debris lying on a steep slope, with the ocean below and a cliff up above. It's not the easiest thing to clean up. But the Trust plan is to remove the debris and prepare the site for eventual

restoration of a native plant community such as existed there before the debris was dumped over the cliff. And our goal is to clean it up such that eventually the plant community can be installed or replanted by Trust and Park Service representatives. And actually, here you see an example of Park Service personnel and volunteers replanting, I believe, a serpentine scrubland over on the west side of the post. And the goal is when we're all done with the cleanup and the restoration that it will look like the photograph on the right, which is a pretty clean native hillside.

The environmental program was created by the May 1999 Memorandum of Agreement between the Park Service, the Army and the Trust. Through the Memorandum of Agreement the Trust assumed the responsibility for doing the environmental cleanups from the Army, and the funding to do this was provided by the Army.

The Trust is working in partnership with the Park Service and the Restoration Advisory Board, which is the main instrument by which the public provides their input to the remediation process. And what we're trying to do is expedite the remediation process and complete

the work substantially faster than the Army would have been able to do it.

The remedial process is a fairly complex one. This diagram shows the six steps that are required in the CERCLA process. CERCLA stands for Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act. So you can understand why we call it CERCLA, and we further simplify it to just call it the non-petroleum cleanup.

It's taken ten years to get through the first three steps of this process. Quite a bit of the work was done by the Army, and the Trust has taken it a few steps beyond where the Army was. Right now we're at the end of step four, which is called the feasibility study, and we expect to complete this step by the end of 2001. Once the feasibility study is done, steps five and six are really the cleanup. So after the end of this year we will be into the actual physical cleaning up part of the remedial process.

Where we started out: at the time the Trust assumed responsibility for the cleanups, the park had over a dozen landfills and fill sites that

contained construction debris, soil and municipal waste. And red fields that you can see here are most of our major fill sites, so you can see that they're distributed all over the park. There are also about 30 other non-petroleum sites, which include solvent spills, and in one case a former Army skeet range that's down at Crissy Field. The park had hundreds of underground storage tank sites, dozens of vehicle maintenance shops, several fuel depots, and the remnants of over five miles of underground heating oil distribution pipes, which leaked in a lot of different locations.

The park also contains hundreds of buildings that have lead paint and asbestos. And in the park we also have soil and some sediment in Mountain Lake that has been contaminated by lead that has been emitted from automobile exhaust along Park Presidio Boulevard and Doyle Drive over the years and years that leaded gas was used.

In the CERCLA or non-petroleum program, the Trust is now sampling some of the landfills and the other non-petroleum sites to find out what's in them, or to better understand what's in them. I know this site looks pretty scary, but actually that stuff is just wood,

so it's not one of the worst wastes that you might find in a landfill. The good news is that most of the landfills seem to contain mostly soil and building rubble, which are relatively easy to handle. The Trust is working with the RAB and the Park Service and the regulators to establish cleanup levels for these fill sites and to choose remedies that are cost-effective and that are appropriate for a national park, which obviously requires different considerations than an industrial site.

We're making progress with the non-petroleum program. We expect to begin major cleanups early in 2002, and the pace of cleanup will accelerate after that.

We have another program that deals with petroleum. Petroleum's handled under a different set of regulations. Generally, the petroleum cleanup process is simpler than the CERCLA process, so there are some opportunities to speed up the process. It's good that we can speed up the process because there are approximately 485 identified petroleum spill sites on the Presidio. Fortunately, most of them are fairly small. The spills frequently come from underground storage

tanks. Here in the park we have storage tanks that occur in all kinds of locations, including beneath buildings and in the coastal fortifications and bunkers.

This particular photograph shows a tent on the left. You can see a 10,000-gallon tank that was removed from next to Building 38 last year. This tank held heating oil that was used to feed the furnace in the building.

The next three slides are some case studies. We want to show you what we've been up to over the last 18 months, so I'll try to go through those quickly.

The first is the Commissary. Shortly after the excavation of the new tidal marsh was finished, Golden Gate National Parks Association personnel noticed a gasoline odor in the southwest corner of the marsh, which is right in front of the Commissary. It turned out the odor came from contaminated groundwater that was seeping out of the marsh bank. The Trust looked into this, and we found gasoline and diesel fuel in the soil adjacent to the marsh. The Trust is right

now in the process of removing this soil. If you've been down on Mason Street recently, you know that we have a detour in there. We actually had to tear out 150 feet of Mason Street in order to get at the soil. But we expect the excavation to be finished in June, and the restoration of Mason Street will be done in early July. So when that's done we think there'll be no more gasoline seeping into the marsh.

Last year, a Trust crew was working on the World War II Pacific Sailors' Memorial, which is up near Kobbe Avenue and Lincoln Boulevard, and they discovered some oily soil near the north end of the monument. The Trust looked into this and coordinated with the regulatory agencies, and then removed about 40 tons of oily soil. We got this done in time so that the restoration of the monument could be completed in time for Memorial Day 2000. You can see a picture of the backhoe shows what it looked like when we were taking the oily soil out, and the picture on the right shows what it looks like now. So the restoration guys did a pretty good job.

The last case study is Building 637. This is a site--it was a former Army fueling station on the south edge of Crissy Field. The Trust

worked together with the other stakeholders to put together a cleanup plan, and did the work about 18 months ago. Part of the work was done on a fast track so that we could get the alignment of Mason Street cleaned up in time for it to be realigned as part of the Crissy Field restoration project. One of the things that we're proud about here is that the work was completed for less than a third of the cost that the Army had estimated to perform a cleanup in this area.

We're facing a number of challenges right now. One that we're facing is the removal of landfills four and five. The lower inset picture on the left side is a picture of landfill five. The Trust, the Park Service, the RAB and the regulators are working together to try to accelerate the cleanup, and in this case it'll be the removal of the landfills—they're on the west side of the park. One of the reasons that we're removing landfill five is so that we can get it ready for reestablishment of a native plant community on the site. It's our goal to try to remove both of these landfills by the end of 2001, which is a fairly aggressive goal considering the number of steps of the process that we have to go through. But all the stakeholders are contributing, and we think that we can meet this goal.

One of the other challenges we're dealing with is cleanup of petroleum beneath historic buildings. It turns out all of the buildings along the main Parade Ground--these historic brick barracks--had tanks below the basement floors. Virtually all of them leaked heating oil. So we're in the process of figuring out how to clean those up. We expect to actually have the cleanup finished by the end of the year.

Our major accomplishments are involvement of the stakeholders in the remedial process, which we take very seriously. We're trying to streamline the process and accelerate the cleanup whenever we can. Not all of them can be accelerated, but the ones that can, we try to do that.

Right now the Trust is close to agreement with the other stakeholders on preferred remedies for most of the non-petroleum sites, and that has taken a long year of discussion and negotiation. And we are trying to perform all of our cleanups in accordance with the highest

standards, because those are the right standards for a national park that's as beautiful as this one.

Our timeline--from the inception in 1999, the environmental program has been picking up steam. We expect to complete all of the environmental remediation by 2010. This is roughly 20 years sooner than we think the Army would have been able to do it, considering their funding restrictions. We think with the help of our partners and the stakeholders, we should be able to get this done on this schedule. There's a lot of work to do but we're making progress.

Now I would like to introduce Terri Thomas, who is the natural resources program manager for the Presidio Trust. She's going to talk about protection and preservation of wildlife. Thank you.

Terri Thomas: Thanks, George.

We've been learning about the vegetation of the Presidio for over a decade now. We've been learning about cultural landscapes, historic forests and natural areas, and we're still learning. But we're also

beginning to learn more about other aspects of biodiversity here on the Presidio.

My goals for this program today are to increase the understanding of the biological diversity found here, and its values on a local, national and international scale, where we fit in here at the Presidio. I'd also like to raise the awareness of the richness of that diversity, especially with bird life, and to describe the beginnings of the programs to protect the wildlife here for future generations.

I'm going to begin with a case study on the local scale that shows the value of the work in biological diversity we're doing here. And I'll use the California quail as an example, which is in the right-hand side of this slide--a male California quail. It's the state bird of California, and its numbers in San Francisco have been dwindling.

Here at the Presidio, we may hold what may be the last viable population of California quail. We have about 20 to 30 here on the Presidio. Their numbers are decreasing in San Francisco partially or mostly due to increases in predation. The California quail is a

ground-nesting bird, so it's more susceptible to predation than ones that nest further up in the trees.

Because of these reasons, the Audubon Society has started a "save the quail" campaign, and the Presidio is a collaborator in that campaign, as is the City of San Francisco. Every other month we have a restoration program that focuses on quail habitat in the Presidio. And in fact, last Saturday was one of those times when the community-- residents, tenants, the general public--and Audubon Society can come to the Presidio and improve habitat for California quail.

This is not only important on a local scale. Nationally, the San Francisco Bay Area has also been identified by the Nature Conservancy as one of their six hot spots of biological diversity with which to center their conservation efforts. These are areas that for various reasons harbor more species than other places in the country, and they also have the largest amount of species at risk. The Nature Conservancy looks at these areas as the beacons of conservation nationally. We have an opportunity here at the Presidio, at the mouth

of the San Francisco Bay, right at the Golden Gate, to participate in the leadership of that effort.

And it's not only nationally. Internationally, Conservation International has done a similar project in looking at hot spots for biodiversity in which to center their efforts. The only area in the continental United States and Canada identified is the California province. The California province and here at the Presidio were part of Mediterranean ecosystems. And you can see on this map that the Mediterranean area, number 14 and 15, are also hot spots, because Mediterranean ecosystems are some of the rarest in the world. We are looking now into possible collaborations with the Mediterranean region on our issues and management practices.

Internationally, it isn't only this kind of global look. We have some more tangible right, on the ground collaborations with our members south of the border in our neotropical migratory birds. Neotropical migratory birds such as the Wilson's warbler, which nests here on the Presidio, nest in North America but spend the majority of every year south of the border. So these birds, such as the Wilson's warbler,

travel 600 miles non-stop 20 hours before they rest on their migration north to their nesting grounds. These birds are up to three inches; they're very small birds. They have very little food reserves. And these rest stops along the way are very important, as well as the nest stops.

In general, neotropical migratory birds are decreasing. About 30 percent of the different birds have been decreasing in populations. This warbling vireo is actually data taken from the Bay Area of a songbird decline, and the neotropical migratory declines are similar. It used to be thought that was mainly due to the decrease in habitats south of the border, but now it's known that those nesting habitats and resting habitats are equally important.

When you're flying over the Presidio, it's a natural place to make that rest stop or that nest stop. It's become very important to bird life.

When I first came to the Presidio to work full-time in December, one of the first things that I did was go out with Alan Hopkins from the Audubon Society on their December bird count. This is a bird count that the Audubon Society does every year nationally, and Harry was

focusing on the Presidio--or most of the Presidio. It was an amazing day. We saw over 4,000 birds that day, and 83 different species of birds. That's 83 types of birds in one day. And as I learned more about the birds on the Presidio, there's actually over 200 species that come here. One document notes 224 that have come and spent time here. For a 1,480-acre area in the middle of a city in the United States, that is a tremendous number of species of birds. And they're all over. It's not just the natural areas.

So I thought I would give you a little bit of a tour of the kinds of birds you might see at different spots in the Presidio. In the design landscaped areas, there's quite a variety. In fact, if I wanted to see a meadowlark, which is here at the lower right, I'd go to Fort Scott. I've never gone to Fort Scott without seeing a meadowlark when I wanted to see one. Last time I was there I also saw a great blue heron hunting gophers. And all over the Presidio landscapes you can see the Allen's hummingbird, which happens to be a neotropical migrant in the Presidio. A little bird like that, a little hummingbird, traveling across the border every year. And some birds, such as the brightly colored hooded oriole on the left, which is feeding its chicks in a nest,

nests in our palms only in the designed landscapes. And this is the northern breeding limit for the hooded oriole, which is also a neotropical migrant.

Our forests hold a different group of species. This is where you'll see three different types of woodpeckers and a lot of raptors, or birds of prey. Some of you may know that across the Golden Gate from us in the Marin Highlands, the Golden Gate Parks Association has a raptor observatory. And that's because of the major raptor migration route that comes down the Marin peninsula and into the Presidio. That observatory's been going on for over a decade. Well, when they cross the Golden Gate, they oftentimes land in our forest. And right now, we have two redtailed hawk nests, one of which we know has three chicks in it.

And it isn't only the hawks. Owls are very valuable...Presidio habitat for owls here in San Francisco, because it's the last pair of screech owls that exists in San Francisco that we have here on the Presidio. And in the December bird count we also had the only great horned owl that was heard during that count.

And then of course there's our natural habitats, which hold the richest diversity of birds. This is where you'll find a lot of the brightly colored neotropical migratory birds and a lot of small birds that are camouflaged--you have to really kind of search to see. But one place you can go to see these birds is at El Polin Springs. If you sit quietly a little bit of distance away, I'd say eight out of ten times you can see birds coming to take water from the spring or bathe in the spring.

The other water areas, such as Mountain Lake, Crissy Marsh, Lobos Creek and Tennessee Hollow, you'll see a lot of these water birds: black crowned night herons, great egrets. And in our coastal scrub, the white crowned sparrow. The late Luis Baptista of the Academy of Sciences studied for years the songs of the white crowned sparrows and found a dialect of song unique to the Presidio.

As far as programs, what are we working on -- we're working on mapping this so that people can actually come and have an idea of where to go to see specific bird species. It's a very complicated project. Three members of the Audubon Society--Dan Murphy, Alan

Hopkins and Harry Fuller--have been extremely valuable in trying to pull this map together. Also, Point Reyes Bird Observatory has spent the last couple of years in partnership with the National Park Service inventorying birds, and the Presidio was included in that.

We're beginning to monitor our actions, such as restoring Mountain Lake, and as we start in the Vegetation Management Plan action, so that we can see how habitat's improving for our birds. And habitat restoration, such as I mentioned with the California quail.

And we reach out with education. We reach out to schools, local and international visitors, residents, tenants and neighbors. And there's a table after if you'd like to visit and talk more about those programs.

Birds are becoming a major part of the world's booming ecotourism industry. They're second only to gardening as North America's most popular outdoor recreational pastime. Birding is the fastest growing family sport in North America, and it's a visitor experience that we offer here at the Presidio.

In the future, we have more work to do to learn about other areas of biodiversity: mammals, reptiles, amphibians and insects. We know that our fox populations are decreased to just a handful--maybe one or two. We lost one to a car last year. And we know that we have monarch butterflies over winter in our trees--hundreds of monarch butterflies in trees--but we know very little about them.

Through these efforts, we're hoping to learn more and be able to participate in the leadership, locally, nationally and internationally, in protecting biological diversity. And I'm hoping that this program might inspire you the next time you take a walk in the Presidio to bring a pair of binoculars. And when you hear that bird--because you don't always see them--or when you see a quick bird flick by, take a closer look, because it could be a moment of discovery.

Now that you've heard a little bit about the natural resources of the Presidio, I'd like to introduce Cherilyn Widell, who will be talking about the preservation of the historic buildings.

Cherilyn Widell: Good morning. The best place to start talking about the sustainable rehabilitation of historic buildings at the Presidio is right here at the old Officers' Club--the site, really, where the Presidio began in 1776. A year ago it would not have been possible for us to have this meeting here. This grand old building, frankly, needed a facelift. There were leaks in all 28 sections of the roof, skunks had taken up residence, there was mold on the walls, and it needed an electrical upgrade and heating repairs, electricity.

Now, after a rehabilitation, with the help of many--especially the National Park Service--the Officers' Club is once again a meeting place for San Francisco. And on top of that, it is a world class exhibition space.

All this work had to be done very carefully, for after all, this building is a very important place in history--in the history of San Francisco, of California and our nation. In fact, it was this very building that first established the Presidio as a National Historic Landmark in 1962.

So why is a National Historic Landmark--be it a building or an entire district, like the Presidio is--worthy of such outstanding protection? Because, frankly, there are so few of them. There are 2,300 properties approximately that are National Historic Landmarks in the United States. Ten percent of those are under federal ownership, and only a handful are National Historic Landmark Districts. These are places that reflect the history of our nation, and they deserve our special care.

How are we preserving and protecting the National Historic Landmark District here at the Presidio? Well, currently, frankly, we're undergoing one of the largest historic preservation projects in the entire United States. We are using innovative technologies in adaptive reuse, and what we like to call sustainable stewardship in over 400 contributing historic properties through trained craftspeople.

Where did we begin? Frankly, there were neglected buildings, rotting wood on porches and stairways, gutters missing, deferred maintenance, inappropriate repairs, and a need for code compliance.

What did we need? We needed, frankly, trained craftspeople that used innovation, imagination, definitely hard work, and craftspeople that are sensitive to both the values of historic preservation and sustainability. In short, we needed skilled hands that had both a head and a heart.

Now, many partners have helped provide training for our workforce. The Presidio Trust has co-sponsored a training for craftspeople and the community with the National Park Service, the California Preservation Foundation, Society for California Archaeology, UC-Berkeley and others. And individual craftspeople have traveled on their own to courses ranging from methods of cleaning masonry to temporary shoring of earthquake-damaged historic buildings, just in case.

What are the results? Well, we're beginning to have 19th century buildings with 21st century technology. Our rehabilitation meets both the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and the Green Building Guidelines. So far, 91 residential and non-residential buildings have been rehabilitated.

Let me show you some case studies. The first is a residential case study of Building 1324 Kobbe. Similar work is also happening on Simonds Loop and Infantry Terrace--Presidio Boulevard, if you're familiar with the Presidio. Before we began rehabilitation, this building had a 1960s kitchen, no seismic strengthening, broken windows, peeling paint, inefficient fixtures and utilities, even moisture problems in the foundation. With great care, once again following both the Secretary of Interior's standards and the Green Building Guidelines, this historic building has been repaired, reused, and it's basically recycling on a major scale. The residents now have low-flow plumbing, which can save over 20,000 gallons of water a year. We have recycled carpeting, non-toxic interior paint to improve the air quality, compact fluorescent lighting--that means that a light bulb will last up to 10,000 hours and use 70 percent less energy than a standard incandescent bulb--and energy-efficient appliances.

And it is a smart house. One jack in each room can accommodate all telecommunication mediums, from telephones to Internet access to cable TV, and future interactive activities as they become available.

By installing this smart wiring during the rehab, and placing all the access into one jack, we protect the historic plaster and the 19th century trim in the rooms, and we only have to do it once, as tenants change.

The second case study is a non-residential building--Building 36. If you look on the left, this building began on the Main Post in 1885 with a kitchen and rec room on the first level, barracks on the second floor--and you reach them by two staircases. It's been converted to many uses over the years. By 1940, the second floor porch had been enclosed for offices, and one of the stairs had been removed, if you look in the center photograph. By the 1990s, the building even contained a jail.

Before the rehab, there was a deteriorated roof, inefficient heating systems, rotting wood, failing plaster, and code compliance issues. After the rehabilitation, once again all the work met the Secretary of Interior's standards and the Green Building Guidelines as applied to historic buildings. The trained craftspeople working on Building 36 maximized and reused the historic fabric and took special care--if you

look up in the center photograph--to rework the windows so that they're operable windows and we retain them in place. Existing materials were salvaged and rehabilitated whenever possible, and we used renewable materials when we needed them, like wheatboard and fiberboard bamboo for the trim and the cabinets. Occupancy sensors were also put in each of the rooms so that they would turn off the lights automatically when people left the room.

Also, energy-efficient T-8 lighting, compact fluorescent lighting, was installed. And materials that couldn't be used in that particular building were recycled and used elsewhere on all of the rehabilitation projects that we're doing at the Presidio. An energy management system was installed. This computer brain monitors energy use. It calculates optimum settings, and even allows technicians to troubleshoot problems from remote locations.

On the right, you will see what is called a capstone. It is an example of a microturbine. In response to the energy crisis, the Presidio Trust is using new technology in our current rehab that allows us to use cleaner fuel sources. It uses a single fuel source to generate two types

of energy. In this case, natural gas is used to generate electricity and useful heat. This new system is 80 percent efficient, a major improvement over the current efficiency of 30 percent.

In addition to the Presidio Trust projects about which I've talked today, tenant-sponsored projects, such as the San Francisco Film Centre, Thoreau Center for Sustainability, and the ongoing building project at Building 38--which you can see as you leave the Officers' Club today--have also been very successful at combining historic preservation and sustainability.

What is our agenda for the future? By 2013, we will renew the Presidio through the sustainable rehabilitation of hundreds of historic buildings, establish the Presidio National Historic Landmark District as a living laboratory for historic preservation and sustainable stewardship by using historic buildings for learning, and we want to benefit the community and the nation through international leadership in the field of historic preservation.

As we make and remake this community every day, the integrity of the Presidio National Historic Landmark District will be preserved. Together, we will renew and sustain this special place through leadership in the field of historic preservation, and environmental remediation, and the preservation and protection of wildlife for generations to come.

None of this would be possible without the partners that we have discussed and mentioned today in each of our presentations. I'd like to give an opportunity to recognize one partner that I personally have to work with on a daily basis, and have a pleasure of learning from him about these buildings. That's Ric Borjes, who is chief of cultural resources for GGNRA. Ric, are you here? I'd like to give you an opportunity to say something, if you'd like to do that. Great.

Ric Borjes: Thank you, Cheryl. I really appreciate the introduction. It's been a great opportunity working with you, a wonderful opportunity to learn myself about historic preservation. And members of the Board of Trustees, good to have a chance to work with you, to speak with you today. I just wanted to give a little commendation to the Presidio

Trust today for its work and Cheryl's hard efforts, as with members of her staff, in rehabilitation, operations, maintenance activities here in the Presidio.

The National Park Service over the last two and a half years has provided about 200 reviews of Presidio Trust projects for compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act. And it's been an incredible experience to work with that. During the course of that we've had the opportunity to look at a lot of projects the Presidio Trust is doing. Whether it be work through the Federal Tax Preservation Incentives Program under the Tax Act, buildings like the San Francisco Film Centre, Building 220, or whether it be in-house work with skilled craftspeople--Building 50 here, Building 36, other buildings like that--or whether it be the development of a highly sensitive archaeological program here in the Presidio that is undertaking a great deal of work, I've found that the Presidio Trust is exercising an incredible ability to perform highly sensitive but highly useful preservation work. And I just wanted to commend the Presidio Trust for their work to date on this. Thank you.

Cherilyn Widell: Thank you, Ric, very much.

This concludes our presentation. I'd now like to introduce you to Karen Cook, General Counsel of the Presidio Trust, who will be presenting the next part of the presentation.

Karen Cook: Good morning. Members of the board, you have before you a proposed resolution with regard to the Vegetation Management Plan that the National Park Service is preparing.

Sharon Farrell is here in the audience. I don't know if you want to say just a quick statement about the status of the VMP. I know that you've got some brochures you've been handing out about pilot projects. Do you want to do that really quickly before we take this proposed action?

Sharon Farrell: Good morning. I'm Sharon Farrell. I'm the natural resource planner for the Presidio Trust. We have today for members of the public and for the board a publication on the status of the Vegetation Management Plan pilot project program. This is a collaborative effort

with the National Park Service where we're beginning to embark on testing methodologies and vegetation treatments in the historic forest, native plant communities, and within the landscape zones of the Presidio.

We're going to be here after the meeting today to answer questions people may have about the pilot project program. I'd invite you to join us at the table, and we'd be more than happy to entertain questions.

Karen Cook: The resolution that you have in front of you acknowledges that the National Park Service in cooperation with the Presidio Trust has developed the Vegetation Management Plan, and that as lead agency, the National Park Service is preparing an Environmental Assessment in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. The resolution represents that Trust staff have evaluated this Environmental Assessment and have determined that the Environmental Assessment meets the standards for an adequate EA under the Trust's own NEPA regulations. The Trust staff therefore recommends that consistent with NEPA the board accept this

Environmental Assessment, and under the resolution the board would accept the Trust staff's recommendations and would authorize the Executive Director of the Trust, Jim Meadows, to complete the preparation of a Finding of No Significant Impact with respect to the Vegetation Management Plan, and to execute the Finding of No Significant Impact on behalf of the Trust.

Toby Rosenblatt: Are there questions from the board members on the proposed action with respect to the finding on the Vegetation Management Plan? Is there a motion by the board?

Bill Reilly: So moved.

Mary Murphy: Second.

Toby Rosenblatt: Moved and seconded by Bill Reilly and then Mary Murphy.  
Members of the board, all those in favor?

All: Aye.

Toby Rosenblatt: Opposed? It's adopted unanimously.

[applause]

I think we'll take by extension that there was applause also for the three presenters who dealt with the remediation and the wildlife and the historic building preservation.

I did want to ask whether there was anybody here in the audience who wanted to raise any questions or comments on the remediation or the historic preservation or the wildlife discussions that we've just had. Yes, sir? Could you go over to the mic and address...?

Patricia Vaughey: Patricia Vaughey. Can you hear me?

When LAIR Research Center closed, the birds returned to Cow Hollow. First it was the crows, then it was the small birds that you just pictured. We've got the owls now. And what little space we have in Cow Hollow and on the east side of the Presidio should be left as wide open as possible.

We are seeing an insurgence of wild animals, and particularly birds, that have not been seen before in a long time. Just because there is a fence there doesn't mean that there is a greater area. One of the main purposes of the Cow Hollow design guidelines, which both groups encouraged and are getting through the City and County of San Francisco, is preserving the green belt for these species, as well as for the overall public vista from the Golden Gate Bridge that incorporates the Presidio as well as the adjoining neighborhood. The green belt is extremely important.

Any development on the east side would stop that public vista. Any more development would ultimately hurt the projected future of the Presidio as well as the quality of life of the neighbors. I think that we need to start working on this mutual issue, whether it's environmental or anything. I'm not seeing as much as we should be. Thank you.

Toby Rosenblatt: Next speaker, please.

Francisco DaCosta: My name is Francisco DaCosta. I've been very fortunate to have worked here at the Presidio for a long time. I worked for the Army and for the National Park Service, and recently for the United States Park Police.

The presentations given here on the cleanup, the forest management plan, and the historical buildings were very interesting. I was very fortunate to have worked for the infrastructure group, the maintenance tactical support group, and the real estate and property management when the National Park Service, so I think I can address a little bit of the three issues that were discussed over here.

As far as the cleanup is concerned, my main question is, how clean is clean? I've heard statements alluding to the Army. I did work and I did attend many meetings that were held by the Restoration Advisory Board, and personally, I think the Army did a good job. But anyway, my question is, how clean is clean? And I think time will tell.

As far as the forest management plan is concerned, I'm very interested in that subject. A lot of our trees are very old. One of the

issues that we need to deal with when the trees come down is what we're going to be doing with our trees. I know the president of the board has seen some of the projects on the Presidio, and I would encourage that woodcarving and such other things tied to sustainability and the forest management plan are put in place.

On the third issue of the historical buildings, a lot of us who are present here may not be aware that for many, many years many of our buildings were left unattended. These were historical buildings. We really should address the preservation of many of our historical buildings, and put them on fast track. I'm glad that the Presidio Trust is doing so. Thank you very much.

Toby Rosenblatt: Thank you.

Michael Alexander: Good morning, directors. My name is Michael Alexander. As someone who's spent a number of years on the Restoration Advisory Board debating--to be kind about it--with the Army over how the Presidio is going to be cleaned up and when it would be cleaned up, it's a real pleasure to see that the cleanup is now proceeding and

proceeding at a rapid rate instead of people sitting around and just talking about cleaning it up.

But I was surprised about seeing more tanks being removed, because it was my very clear recollection when I was on the RAB that the Army had removed all of the fuel lines and was removing all of the tanks. And so it was a surprise to see that there are more tanks remaining and that there are residues from leaking tanks that still need to be cleaned up. My question is, how many more tanks remain and how much residue remains? For example, it appears that there are leaks that the Army didn't clean up from the Montgomery Street buildings. How much of that remains and how is that being paid for?

Toby Rosenblatt: Bruce, do we have references or quick answers that we... Thanks.  
Again, this is Bruce Anderson of the Presidio Trust.

Bruce Anderson: Thank you for your comments and your questions. What I would like to do is, after the public board meeting ends, myself and staff will be available at the back of the room to answer any of these types of questions. So please get back and talk with the individuals in the

back of the room. And if we can't answer it for you at that time, we will definitely get back to you in writing with our answers.

Toby Rosenblatt: In addition, I would just draw everybody's attention to this document that was referred to earlier. This is the pilot project study for the Vegetation Management Plan. Copies of it are here somewhere. Where are they? Over on the side table on your right. And particularly within that document, if you wish to, when you take a look, pilot projects nine and ten deal with the restoration of the forest health and the reforestation. There is also a section in the Vegetation Management Plan which talks about that and talks about the major study that's under way with the Olmstead Center on the needs for the reforestation.

The only other thing I wanted to comment on--and Bruce, correct me if this is inaccurate--is the issue of the standards to which remediation cleanup have been done or are being done, I believe, is all part of the public record that is being developed or has been developed by the Restoration Advisory Board, some of which if not most of which is on the Web site as well as in the Presidio Trust library. So if anybody

wished to have more detailed answers than can be obtained today, but answers to those questions that have been asked, those are the sources. Thank you.

Male voice: Yes, sir?

Doug Kern: Good morning. My name is Doug Kern. I've been a member of the Presidio Restoration Advisory Board since 1994. I'd just like to thank you for the opportunity to make a couple of remarks here this morning. The cleanup of the Presidio has been ongoing for over a decade, since 1989, and the community has been a part of that the whole way.

I'd just like to say at the start that the Presidio Trust achieving the acquisition of the hundred million dollars remains a source of pride for the community, that it's now under local control and we have access to staff and we can really make some progress. That's a tremendous achievement, and we'd like to continue to remark on that. I think perhaps that that's an underacknowledged achievement for the Trust.

As George mentioned, there are a couple of notable cleanup sites that have been undertaken and are under way. The 637 site and the Commissary are good achievements. The Crissy Field, of course, getting cleaned up was another notable achievement. There's been additional sampling around the Presidio that I believe the Army, politely, would have been reluctant to conduct, and that sampling has been done—that's been a very nice achievement.

I do have a couple of recommendations. We have remarked through staff that the publicly available information on the Web site and that senior staff has mentioned at various meetings regarding the remediation budget has been grossly inaccurate. Those errors have been perpetuated; we've tried to get them corrected. We're supportive of staff. I think staff has made every effort that they can. But the Web site information remains inadequate. We'd like to recommend that perhaps staff be able to update us on a quarterly basis of remediation expenditures. That might help get this information in a more up-to-date fashion.

I believe the remediation schedule that George mentioned warrants careful scrutiny by all of us. There's a lot of work to be done, and we're very supportive of an accelerated amount of that work. It just needs to be carefully coordinated with any restoration efforts that might fall behind it.

Finally, I think I would just say that we're supportive of the Trust's ongoing efforts in this area to complete a comprehensive cleanup of the Presidio. Thanks again for this opportunity to comment.

Toby Rosenblatt: Thank you, Doug.

Mary Murphy: Thank you, Doug. If I could just comment for a moment, I want to say thank you back to the Restoration Advisory Board, and particularly to Doug Kern, who just spoke, who has shepherded this process since, as he said, I think it was 1994. I don't know that there's been anyone in the community more involved than Doug in being a significant stakeholder and participant in the restoration process.

We are very fortunate here at the Presidio to have done the landmark agreement with the Army where we have the funds in hand to accelerate and to actually do the remediation here. But none of that would be possible without the cooperation and participation of the local regulatory agencies, of the DTSC, the EPA, and most specifically, our Restoration Advisory Board, which is made up of volunteers from the community, some of whom have incredible technical knowledge like Doug; others of whom come at it and learn this stuff in the process.

But our Restoration Advisory Board has been critical to getting to where we are today--to be, I think, the only closed base with the money in hand and with an accelerated cleanup schedule--I think, an ambitious one, you're right, but I think accurately ambitious. It's the right position to come at to try to accelerate the cleanup, and we wouldn't be able to do that without people who just volunteer their hours pro bono out of their free time to make this happen. And I want to just extend my thanks and the thanks of the board to the Restoration Advisory Board in particular for being such a great

cooperative partner and a stakeholder in this process with us and with the Park Service, and the EPA and DTSC.

Male voice: Thank you.

Toby Rosenblatt: With respect to just that small item of keeping the Web site up-to-date, if we could just ask you, Bruce, to do some checking on that and report back to the board.

Mary's comment calls to mind the desire that I have, and the board has also, because I think there may be a number of other people here who are involved in their lives as volunteers in the Presidio and in the GGNRA with respect to the kind of work that Terri Thomas was talking about, and all of the natural resource protection and stewardship, as well as the wildlife stewardship. And separate from that but of equal importance, those people who were very interested and involved in the historic preservation. I know there are a number of volunteers who are interested in that and some who do docent work, I believe, as well on the Presidio. And so on behalf of all of the

board members, we express our appreciation to you for being very much a part of all this.

Yes, sir?

Norman Wheatley: Hi. My name's Norman Wheatley. I'm a resident of the Cow Hollow area and have been for some time. First of all, I'd like to say I think you on the board are doing a great job. As I have been running and walking around the Presidio for many years, I've noticed a great improvement in things.

I would actually ask you if you could do a couple of things. Could you give us a little bit more information when you start changing the environment? Sometimes it's very disturbing when you come in and see some lovely old trees that have been cut out. I know it's for a good reason, like oil and stuff, but we don't know that because there's nothing to indicate it.

And also, it's quite difficult for us to find out what's going on with your preservation and your restoration. I would ask that, along with

the Web site, you could perhaps up the level of information somewhat, because you really don't see enough. Like maybe you could put something in the Marina Times or something.

My final question is actually a question. I've heard that there are plans to actually put houses on Lyon Street. Is that true or is it not true?

Toby Rosenblatt: Not true.

Female voice: Not true.

Norman Wheatley: Thanks very much.

Toby Rosenblatt: That one actually was the easiest and quickest to answer. There are no plans to build houses along Lyon Street.

With respect to giving you more information, we are very interested--our staff is keenly interested--in finding always continuously better ways to do that. Besides the Web site, the press releases and press

briefings that are not releases that are done for various smaller and larger newspapers and other media here, and the Presidio Post and special mailings, if you have specific ideas that you think would be helpful to you for you individually or through your neighborhood association, for instance, we would very much appreciate having those. And what I need from Bruce or from somebody is a contact point to give to these people--who ought they be in touch with, Craig?

Craig Middleton: Cynthia Carey-Grant [unintelligible].

Toby Rosenblatt: Cynthia, do you want to wave so people can see you? Cynthia Carey-Grant is her name. And if you call the Presidio Trust and ask for her office, they will be very pleased to receive your suggestions about how we can keep improving the public communication aspect of what we're doing.

Yes, sir?

Garrett Lee: Good morning. My name is Garrett Lee, and I work for the National Park Service Natural Resources Department in the Presidio. On

behalf of myself and many of my colleagues, I just wanted to thank the board for adopting the Vegetation Management Plan. We've put a lot of hard work and effort and planning into that plan, and I hope that we can continue our efforts together in making this a great park. Thank you.

Toby Rosenblatt: Great. Thank you.

John Holding: Good morning. My name's John Holding. I'm one of the volunteers that you just mentioned, Mr. Rosenblatt, and so I was moved by your comment to get up and make a couple of comments of my own.

I've lived in San Francisco for 15 years, and for the last two years I've had the privilege of working with the restoration team as a volunteer at Crissy Field. It's been a very exciting time for us these last months as Crissy Field as officially opened.

One of the comments at the opening ceremony that really moved me was by Bob Haas. I think it moved all of us that were there, and it obviously moved him when he said, "This is only the beginning at

Crissy Field.” And as a volunteer on the opening day ceremonies when the thousands of people were there, I was amazed at the number of questions I got, standing in front of the dune or standing in the marsh, of people wondering: “I had no idea that plants would grow in a sand dune. I had no idea that they would flower like they are.” And even the question of, “Did you bring the geese and the little goslings into the marsh for the opening?”

[laughter]

And then today, Terri’s comment about the number of species that she sees, the most diversity and variety in the restored natural habitats. All of that brought to me a burning question of what is the next phase for Crissy? What’s the priority on it, in terms of the marsh expansion?

The other event that brings that to mind was walking last week with a friend and noticing that the marsh was not lowering. And I went to the outlet and it was closed off because of the lack of water flow. The success that we’ve created that’s generated such excitement and such

volunteer enthusiasm is in danger of maybe not continuing, not moving beyond the beginning that Bob Haas talked about.

So, two things. I'd like to strongly urge the board to prioritize building upon the Crissy success, and expanding the marsh as it needs to be and getting it to a sustainable state. And I'd also like to ask about, and find out from the staff--whomever's involved--what is the current status of studies and proposals for expanding the marsh? And also for extending that success into Tennessee Hollow, and creating an ecosystem that's sustainable and that will continue to generate even more enthusiasm and excitement, and build beyond the beginning. So I'd like to know what the status is on those, as well as Doyle Drive, and how we're going to do Doyle Drive in order to sustain Crissy.

[laughter]

Yes, I see the [unintelligible]. Thank you.

Toby Rosenblatt: No, no more hands! There isn't enough time today.

Quick answers, and then we can do more detailed answers later, or in other documents.

Tennessee Hollow itself is the subject of a special study that is under way, jointly sponsored by the Presidio Trust and the National Park Service/GGNRA. There are internal resources and consulting resources being applied to that, and in various documents in the VMP just acted upon. For instance, Tennessee Hollow is called out as a very special vegetation management and restoration. Part of the motivation for that is indeed to continue the progress being made at Crissy Field in the marsh.

The issue of the marsh expansion is a very much longer term issue. As you know, that marsh is on the other side of the geographic line drawn by Congress between Area A and Area B. And that is within Area A, which comes under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service/GGNRA. The Trust's role there is to be a cooperative player and assist them wherever we can. The principle responsibilities for that issue of keeping the outlet open for the configuration of the

beach, for the expansion of the marsh are ongoing studies that they are working on. And that progress, I am assured, as you heard, will continue.

Doyle Drive has its own study program. My hope is that we're all going to still be around to see it finally done.

[laughter]

But as you can imagine, as a federally funded highway project, that's got a very long planning horizon. There is a study group, as you know, that's under way, and periodically they report on alternatives. That is public information, and as appropriate gets incorporated into the planning at the Presidio. And in that context we will endeavor to keep ourselves educated and you apprised of how it integrates together.

Bruce, unless you have anything else, what I'd like to do is ask that we take a short break. Let me again ask you—there'll be a public comment period for subjects that we have talked about or others.

Again, in order to respect everybody's opportunity to speak, if you wish to speak, please sign up in advance: name, address, and if you wish, any group affiliation and subject matter. Please compose your thoughts in a way that can be contained in two minutes or less. We will have a timekeeper who is where? Raise your hand, please. Where's our timekeeper? Okay, our timekeeper will be moved up to the front row so you'll be able to see her. Where can they find sign-up cards?

Female voice: Sign-up cards are at the tables [unintelligible].

Toby Rosenblatt: Okay. A very short break. Thank you.

[break in recording]

Toby Rosenblatt: I wanted to make a comment first with respect to one item that a number of you have indicated on your cards that you would like to address. Which is the upcoming planning process--well, the process has been under way for a while. It is the process we call PTIP--the Presidio Trust Implementation Plan.

What I wanted to mention about that was to remind ourselves and everybody who's interested in that subject that in fact it is a process that's going on. Initial sets of plans and ideas have come forward and are coming forward, and have been the subject of some informal community meetings between Presidio Trust staff and individuals in the community or groups in the community in a rather informal set of conversations.

There will be coming forward a draft plan and a draft EIS that accompanies that. There will then be a series of public meetings that are currently planned for the following dates. And what I'm about to give you are not new announcements at all--these are dates that have been publicly noticed and on the Web site and in written materials. But I'll just reiterate.

These will be opportunities for members of the public to comment to the Presidio Trust staff and board on the content of those. As you know, because that plan is accompanied by a draft EIS, there is not only the process that we have in place but there's the legal

requirement that all those comments, be they verbal or written, if they are in meetings and communicated... Not just meetings, actually. What occurs at public meetings and what is written to the Presidio Trust becomes part of the formal record and they are formally responded to.

Let me just repeat then. On July 18th there's a public hearing on the PTIP proposals which will be held at the Golden Gate Club from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. And that will be for the purpose of discussing the...

Hmm. Excuse me. I missed a date. Let's start over. [laughs]

July 27th, there's a public workshop. That's the next big date.

Male voice: July or June?

Toby Rosenblatt: June. I think I should just take a drink of water and start over again!  
[laughs]

Okay. Forget all of those dates. Let's start from the top. June 27th, public workshop, Golden Gate Club, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. It'll be a formalized introduction of the draft plan. There'll be a written summary of the plan. Full copies will be available there, or you'll be told how you could choose to get full copies if you choose to.

Then on July 18th is a formal public hearing on the PTIP proposal, which will also be held at the Golden Gate Club from 6:00 to 9:00, with the expectation--invitation for public comment.

July 24th, the GGNRA Advisory Commission will meet at Fort Mason, and they will have the opportunity for public discussion.

And then on July 25th, the Presidio Trust Board of Directors will have a public meeting to take public comment.

And by that point of time I think a lot of good information will have developed, not only out of the proposed materials coming from the Trust, but also out of the commentary that's gone on in the community up to that point. So we are hopeful that by the time we

get to the next meeting with you all, that we'll be at a pretty advanced educated stage on some of the planning concepts that are being considered.

Jeanette: Mr. Rosenblatt, where will [unintelligible]?

Toby Rosenblatt: Well, right now it's scheduled for the Golden Gate Club.

Jeanette: From 6:00 to 9:00?

Toby Rosenblatt: No, it's morning--9:00 a.m. to noon. If by some slight chance it gets moved over to this building, there'll be lots of public notice. But assume it's the Golden Gate Club for now.

Then in addition, as I mentioned, there's the whole public written comment process. Things that are sent to the Trust will be considered by the Trust staff and the board and responded to.

Let me just repeat something that the board members and the senior staff feel quite strongly. It's a simple thought, but it's a very

important one, which is that the Trust board really, truly regards this PTIP process as a discussion process with interested members of the public and other agencies. This is not an issue of, "Okay, here's a plan. Do the legal comment for the EIS. Put a stamp of approval on it and put it on the shelf." This is in fact intended to be an iterative and, I guess the buzz word of the day is interactive, kind of discussion and dialogue on what we all collectively share as what we hope to see as the next steps in the life of the Presidio here.

So I ask you to please, as you're going through this, deal with it in that respect, because we genuinely would like to know in productive and helpful ways how these dialogues develop.

Anybody else on the board wish to comment before we take public comments?

Mary Murphy: I'd just like to add that I think that the board's aware that there's been some sort of misapprehension in some regard as to what the draft plan, which is not out yet and is not publicly available as of yet, might contain. It puts me in mind of what Henry James once said about the

best way to write a horrifying ghost story or tale of terror. He said that the best thing to do is to always leave the details obscure, because a person's imagination can fill in the most horrifying thing to them that the writer could never anticipate. So if you kind of leave it somewhat obscure, the reader will read it and be far more terrified than if the author tried to provide the details themselves.

And I'm afraid in the absence of the actual draft plan being out on the street there have been some misapprehensions or misunderstandings that have arisen in the absence of any real detail--that people are sort of filling in their most horrifying accounts. For example, the thousand houses on the Lyon Street wall, which is just not true.

I want to reiterate what Toby said--that this is an iterative process. It's one where we want to hear back from the public. A lot of the concerns that we've heard about some sort of unfettered commercial development are things that couldn't even occur under the terms of our legislation. In fact, I don't know how many of you recall this, but our Trust Act, our enabling legislation, creates an absolute cap on

how much development there can be in the Presidio, which is exactly as much as there is today. Congress was very clear on that.

In terms of people being very concerned about what might happen here in the future, I just want to reassure everyone that in fact there are very profound constraints on this board legally, and also on our goals here, because our goal is to preserve this place as a national park and a National Historic Landmark District. And I think those goals which inform us in our thinking, and yours as well, will be evident when the draft plan is available for people to see and to comment on. That said, we really want to hear from the public, from the different constituencies and the stakeholders, how they view the component parts of that plan.

When you see that plan, it's important to remember that it's not a site-specific planning document. We're talking about outer envelopes of ideas. This might be here, that might be there, it might be this big, it may be smaller. But what we're trying to do is to have an honest and open dialogue with the public about the things that can occur or might

occur here, and might make sense to occur here within those umbrellas of possibility.

With that, we really welcome your interest and participation in this process, and hope it will be a really productive conversation and dialogue. The notion is that you will speak to us, and we'll hear what you have to say, and say something back to you that we hope will be responsive to the concerns that people express. Thank you.

Amy Meyer: We had two excellent presentations earlier today from Terri Thomas and Cherilyn Widell about the natural resources here, and about the historic resources. Mary has said so much and so has Toby. Everything that they said I agree with. I'm only wanting to add that what Terri and Cherilyn talked about pointed out a whole array of both constraints and opportunities.

There are things that we can do here and there are things we can't do. Those details are not fully known. But there are 470 historic structures. There's an incredible array of natural resources, both in

plants, and birds, fauna and flora; all kinds of animals, insects, things that we have to pay attention to.

We are very much a national park. Mary has said it: we are listening to you. We want to hear what you have to say. And we will be acting in a way that is responsible to making this a fine national park.

Thank you.

Toby Rosenblatt: The only other thing occurs to me, something coming as a follow-on to Mary's comment is that when you see this, many of you would be aware of this because you've followed all this very carefully. But the structure of the planning process within PTIP has built into it lots and lots of subsequent process so that let's say in theory there is a section of the Presidio which is described, a geographic section, which is described as an area which may have A or B or C happen. What goes with that is also the process that indicates that when detailed planning for A or B or C happens, and it's clear in subsequent years what that might be, there is yet another round.

A round based on more specifically, not at the whole Presidio but at subsections. Environmental evaluation and opportunity for public comment. It's a little bit different than perhaps other city planning processes you may have seen elsewhere, if you have experience in that. It is specifically designed for an ongoing series, as planning continues, of public participation as things become clearer in the future. And the ability to respond to needs and desires of the future within the broad parameters, the PTIP and the Presidio Trust Act, the National Historic Preservation Act, and NEPA all require.

With that background, let's turn to individual speakers--not all of whom, by the way, I see from the cards, are here to talk about PTIP particularly. But we will take the cards in the order they're received. Again, please, no more than two minutes. The timekeeper is sitting where? So you'll see the time cards as your time runs out.

Before we actually begin with other speakers though, I would like to call on Alex Toruk. Alex is the director of the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services.

Alex Toruk: Good morning, directors and members of the public. First of all, I appreciate your introductory comments, and appreciate the opportunity to be here to speak to all of you. There are many entities involved in this development process, from the Trust to the National Park Service, National Historic Landmark District, environmental groups, but most importantly, the surrounding neighbors and neighborhood organizations that surround the park.

Due to the fact that this is a federal entity, we understand that the proposed development will be subject to the federally mandated National Historic Preservation Act. There will be an extensive planning process. Every aspect will be closely scrutinized. But I'm here on behalf of the mayor to make sure that the residents and neighborhood organizations have an ongoing seat at the planning table, and can openly participate in the overall process.

There are several issues of importance to the residents and to the City.

The possible elimination of 400 plus units of Wherry Housing.

Proposed construction of new units in the northeast quadrant.

Assurance of open space, mitigation of parking and traffic issues, and

assured jobs/housing balance, and possible new gates at Chestnut or on Greenwich Street.

I believe--and I know the mayor believes--the Presidio will remain to be a beautiful facility for people of all ages to enjoy. There will be new cultural and educational activities, while maintaining the serenity of the park. But I encourage the board, and I urge the board, to tap into the institutional memory and wisdom of the people here today, of the people that couldn't be here today, and all the neighborhood groups that have been involved in this process throughout.

I look forward to working with the Trust, with all the people here today, with all the neighborhood organizations, on working towards a proposal that we can all be proud of. Again, my phone number—I'll be in the back with cards. But I can be reached at 554-6110. Again, I thank you for the opportunity and look forward to working with all of you. Thank you.

Toby Rosenblatt: Also just wanted to just recognize that we have a representative from Supervisor Gavin Newsom's office, Michael Farrah, who is here and will be listening in. We appreciate your coming as well. Thank you.

All right, first speaker, Charles Minster. And he is to be followed by Patricia Vaughney. In order to expedite this, it would be very convenient for everybody else if each speaker—I'll try to call two at a time. If the second speaker wouldn't mind please coming up and being ready to move very quickly, we can expedite it and everybody can be heard.

Charles Minster: All right. Thank you, board members, ladies and gentlemen. My name is Charles Minster. I've been employed as a groundskeeper here at the Presidio since 1986 under three different managements. I'm also here today as an elected representative of the negotiating committee of Local 1141 of the Laborers' International, which represents the employees of the Presidio Trust.

I'm also a delegate to the Central Labor Council of San Francisco, which represents 80,000 union members in San Francisco. I'm also an honorably discharged U.S. Army veteran.

I don't know if you're aware of this, but the Presidio Trust is refusing to give veterans preference in hiring on the Presidio, a military installation for over 150 years. Also, they're refusing to bargain with the employees over basic salary, job security, training, and many, many other items that are basic bargaining rights that people of this country died for on the streets of San Francisco—they're buried in this cemetery right over here.

This is becoming a business park; it's certainly not a national park. It's going to be an example of how to privatize the parks of this country. They've got prisoners out here doing work, free labor, in uniforms just like we wear. We've got a union member here fired who was dying with a terminal disease. His mother had previously died just a couple months before. He was fired and they were going to evict him from his apartment. He would have died on the street because he died shortly after that. If it weren't for the union's

intervention, he would have died on the street. This is thanks to the Presidio Trust.

Some conflict of interest, which might interest people here, the person who runs the facilities here on a day to day basis also has his wife as the controller of the treasury. I would consider that a bit of a conflict of interest. So I stand up here today as a worker at the Presidio who really cares for this facility. I've been here over 15 years taking care of the grounds here. But I'm also concerned about the fact that the public of this country has paid for this facility 20 times over, and they're not going to be offered the housing here. They can't afford the housing here. You've got seniors out here trying desperately to get a small place to live in the Tenderloin. So I think it's about time that this board and the public of this city started investigating just what this Trust is, and what this facility is going to become. Thank you.

[applause]

Toby Rosenblatt: Next speaker, please.

Patricia Vaughey: Patricia Vaughey. At the annual Cow Hollow Association meeting, it was asked if the Wherry Housing was going to be scheduled to be torn down and put in our quadrant. It was answered by the Presidio Trust, "Yes." Then it was said that the environmentalists wanted it torn down, and it was inferred that we didn't have much say so. One senior citizen stood up and said, "You're hearing right now. Don't put it over here. Leave it where it is."

Subsequent conversations with the Presidio Trust, with NAP and other associations--yes, we're not going to move it quite on the Lyon gate, just off of it. Right up here at this set of housing. And four out of five of the alternatives are to do the in-fill which would go up to Pacific Avenue. Maybe it's not in Cow Hollow but it is in Pacific Heights. This is all basically speaking right off of the Lyon gate. This is what has been presented to the public.

Number two is a subsequent conversation I had, which was neighborhoods are not being heard. Well, we had to make you hear us. We [unintelligible] the flier out informing you as much as what

we had heard. We want to have a dialogue with you. The Greenwich gate--why are you rushing the Greenwich gate through fast? The answer was, "Because I want it." This isn't dialogue. What we're trying to do is open the dialogue with you and we want to be heard. And you will be hearing from us forthcoming. We would like to have a dialogue with each one of you as members of the board to tell you that we're not NIMBYs, that we're not against housing. But we have Doyle Drive, Lombard at 100 percent eight hours of the day.

We have two words: we have a mass transportation problem. 8,000 restaurant seats, 1,293 parking places. Greenwich, Francisco and Chestnut are already a freeway, and we can't handle any more. Think about leaving the buildings where they are in the Presidio and not inundating our neighborhood. Thank you.

Toby Rosenblatt: Donald Green to be followed by Francisco DaCosta and then Esmanola Jackson.

Donald Green: I'm Donald Green. I'm a member of the Sierra Club Presidio committee and also a member of [unintelligible] neighborhood group.

We do appreciate the opportunity to review with the staff and some of the board members what you call the preliminary environmental impact statement alternatives. It gave us a chance to give you some view, study it, and we've had some follow-up meetings, which are great. I gather that you plan to have this next public meeting on June 17th, you said. I wasn't quite aware of that date.

What we wanted to do was continue our dialogue for another couple of weeks because I think we're getting closer. Where it may be possible that some of the groups that were fairly adamant in the original scoping process can get closer to where you may be and we may be. "We" speaking for myself; I'm not speaking for each of the groups.

For example, in your original scoping document you said the GMPA lesser development of five million square feet was not financially feasible. We spent a lot of time. We have a lot of experts on our side too, like the environmental group studying the problem.

We came back and demonstrated that by keeping Wherry at least for another ten or fifteen years, as you had proposed anyway in your proposed alternative, that would work. So you guys did come back, and you came out now with a financially feasible GMP alternative. We appreciate that.

However, the data you have again is flawed as it was last time. You're now talking about 40,000 visitors as opposed to 23,000, which the GMP called for. You're talking about 7,900 employees as opposed to 5,500 employees, which the GMP called for. So at a minimum we ought to keep our dialogue so we're not fighting the next six months on some basic facts.

The last comment is we, and many of the people--I think someone else is speaking to it--80 percent of the people that commented on the scoping document wanted a lesser impacted, lesser development alternative. Five million square feet, not six million. That's a very big difference.

The difference, half of it is in housing and half of it is in what you call cultural education, to which you provided no information as to what that is. We would love to hear more about that later. We think it's too much.

On the housing side we've argued, and demonstrated, and your own consultants Turnbull said you can get 200 or 300 new housing units simply by converting the existing non-historic housing including that on East West Washington. So we would like to continue the dialogue, have a chance to talk to you further before you come up with your printed document which then we have to rebut later. Thank you very much.

Francisco DaCosta: My name is Francisco DaCosta. Thank you for giving me an opportunity to talk to you. Now I'm talking to you as a spokesman of the Muwekma Ohlone. Let me take you, ladies and gentlemen, back to 1991, when the National Park Service in its great wisdom created the Community Consultation Initiative. I'm sure some of you all were sitting on that table. And some of you all who are here in the audience have read this document.

The Community Consultation Initiative was a document that spurred the community and especially the people of the Bay Area in the right direction. After that we had a draft General Management Plan, and then an Environmental Impact Study. A lot of the information that was incorporated in the draft GMP was left out in the Final General Management Plan. One of them was the role of the Muwekma Ohlone.

On July 31, Judge Urbina will be putting the Muwekma Ohlone on a fast track, and they will be put back on the Federal Register. Ladies and gentlemen, when this was the [unintelligible] ready for base closure the Muwekma Ohlone exercised the right to first refusal. So we look forward, after July 31, to dealing with the Trust on various issues. And we are monitoring most of their activities in most of the documents. We will continue to monitor them.

We have a Web site that's very current, [www.muwekma.org](http://www.muwekma.org). Ladies and gentlemen, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak on behalf on the first people.

Female voice: Esmanola Jackson and then Ron Miguel.

Esmanola Jackson: Good morning. Thank you for allowing me to speak. I would like to say that as one of the stakeholders that has not been involved in your planning, I would like to say that in some of the buildings that we had requested in some years back, and had talked to Mr. Meadows, we only asked for the housing and for the hospital for my people.

I would like to say to you that there are territorial rights of Native Americans and State of California, and the Muwekma Ohlone--this is a [unintelligible] territory. And I would also like to say when you talk about the historical buildings, why are you leaving out where the Buffalo Soldiers were stationed here on the base back in the 1800s?

I would like to say to you that the Department of Interior has been instructed so the BIA that the Muwekma Ohlone be put back on the Federal Register July 31st of this year. I'm hoping at that time that you then will sit down and will talk with us, as we have been trying to have the National Park Service to do, and who have ignored us. I'm

not going to say you members there have ignored us. But someone on this base has been ignoring the things that we have been requesting.

So I would like to say to you that you will have to have a dialogue with us after we're put back after 25 years of being illegally removed as a federally recognized tribe. Thank you.

Toby Rosenblatt: Ron Miguel and then Bob Purcell. Is Doug Kern still here? Doug, did you want to speak again? Is it from before? Tell Ron we're sorry we missed him. We'll catch up with his comments later. Bob Purcell, Bill Henslin.

Bob Purcell: Hello, my name is Bob Purcell. I'm international representative with the Laborers' International Union of North America. We were proud to represent the employees of the Presidio when they were park employees and we're proud to represent them now as Presidio employees.

We've been engaged in negotiations for a collective bargaining agreement--or thought we were engaged in negotiations for a collective bargaining agreement--until last May. On May 8th--and I've given a packet to each of the board members that includes the letter that was given to us from the Presidio, from the Trust bargaining committee--Mr. Ferrell, who's the head of the bargaining committee.

The letter indicated--and we were stunned because we'd been asked to present a full proposal including an economic package so that we could begin to have more substantive bargaining. As soon as we did that, we were stunned to get this letter which says in part the Presidio Trust believes it has no obligation to bargain over union proposals specifically related to the appointment, compensation, duties or termination of employees. In other words, we have no obligation to bargain over the core issues that unions and working people bargain over to protect their security and to protect their way of life and to determine their compensation on the job.

The Trust is saying they have uniquely stripped the Trust employees of rights that are enjoyed by workers in every public jurisdiction in the rest of the State of California, and in every federal jurisdiction throughout the country. Now, we want to start the dialogue to resolve this before it gets more aggravated and more adversarial. No political leader in Northern California, if they had thought that this was the way the Trust was going to be run, would have established the Trust under these rules.

Congresswoman Pelosi or Senator Boxer or Senator Feinstein or George Miller, none of the people would have supported the creation of the Trust under these kinds of rules. As previous speakers spoke, imagine the hypocrisy of a Memorial Day celebration here in the Presidio when what the Trust is saying is those people that died, the workers can't even enjoy the same rights that those people that fought and died in foreign countries... I know my time is up.

The answer to this is not to say we're not going to bargain if the Trust does not agree with the union's proposals, then give us

counterproposals and we'll engage in the process, engage in the dialogue. Thank you.

Toby Rosenblatt: Before we have the next speaker, I would like to read the following paragraph on this subject that you just heard.

The Presidio Trust and the Trust board appreciates the union's dedicated efforts to represent its employees. It is the union's right to organize at the Presidio. And it is the employee's right, those who work here, to participate if they choose. Specific union or management policies including those items that under federal law and Presidio Trust law are appropriate to be included in bargaining discussions and bargaining units are the subject of dialogue and collective bargainings that are currently under way and will be under way.

Bill Henslin to be followed by Josiah Clark.

Bill Henslin: Hi, my name is Bill Henslin, H-E-N-S-L-I-N. I'm with the Pacific Heights Residents' Association and I'd like to report some good news. Actually, some good news and some good news.

Number one, the dot-com frenzy is over. No longer is housing a commodity more precious than gold in San Francisco. No longer does every square foot of built space need to be converted to dot-com office space. My hope is this is removing all pressure that could possibly have turned a national park into a high tech office park. My hope too is that this is giving all of us in San Francisco and all of you on the board a chance to catch our breath and take the long view of what is right for the Presidio National Park's future.

A second piece of good news Don Green has already alluded to, and that is that according to Trust presentations at neighborhood groups in the past couple of weeks, the Trust now does acknowledge that the GMPA alternative is a financially viable plan for the future of the Presidio. Perhaps not the GMPA exactly as published in 1994, but the GMPA with as few revisions as are needed to make ends meet. This is really good news. I want you to know that hundreds of

citizens look forward to your presentation of your GMPA plan at the June 27th meeting. We look forward to participating in the PTIP process.

I know my time is running out, but my friend Macy McAllister is going to cede her two minutes to me, so please time me for an additional two, if you would.

Toby Rosenblatt: Sorry, we can't do that. Because if we started down that route--

Bill Henslin: Okay, may I continue quickly? I'll do my very best.

Third piece of good news. The scoping comments are available in the Trust library. This has not been widely publicized, but they have been there for public review for about a month and a half. I find they make a very good read. In fact, I spent a week of my time reading all 627 comments. And there's more good news there.

You on the Trust board have overwhelming public support for the GMPA alternative. Over a three-quarters majority of the public

supports that plan. Less than five percent of the comments support Plan D or any plan calling for a grand cultural destination, or any plan calling for extensive demolition and new construction.

I also recommend you read the housing conversion study in the Trust library. Don Green has alluded to that. It shows how 289 existing units can be converted to 830.

I have just one question for the board, if you'll indulge me. All this good news leads me to ask you one question. Will you, the members of the board, continue this flow of good news by endorsing the GMPA plan with as few revisions as possible and by making it your preferred alternative for this summer's public review?

Toby Rosenblatt: The immediate answer, in the context of the process that we have talked about earlier this morning, is it would be very premature for the board to be responding to that question. That is what this whole process over the next many weeks will be about. Thank you.

Josiah Clark to be followed by Judith Dale.

Josiah Clark: Hi, my name is Josiah Clark. I'm a lifetime resident of San Francisco bordering right on the Presidio. I just had some quick comments. First, to commend the Trust and the Park Service on some of the forest conversions that are going to be happening. And while these do provide a really bright long-term future for a lot of the wildlife and fauna that exists in the park, I just wanted to bring up the fact that in the short term, there might need to be some transient features in the landscape that might bring up some aesthetic features for park visitors. Some of these might be considered in interpretive ways to make these good for the public and good for wildlife as well.

Also, just to be considering the many interpretive possibilities for wildlife, which so far have not really been put on the many things the Presidio has to offer.

Toby Rosenblatt: Okay, thank you. Judith Dale? Okay, Denise Chapleau?

Denise Chapleau: Good morning, my name is Denise Chapleau. I am a San Francisco resident in the neighborhood. I am also a volunteer on the Presidio. I

just want to repeat the letter that I sent to the board recently to say that you will be remembered not by what you build, but by what you avoid building.

[applause]

Toby Rosenblatt: Peter Garin and then Ruth Gravanis.

Peter Garin: My name is Peter Garin. I've been in the area for over 25 years. My family's been in the Bay Area for over 100 years. It's interesting to watch as I sit over on line on Lombard the changes that have been going on in the last 25 years.

I get to admire your handiwork--or in some cases, the lack of it--and I have to agree with the previous speaker who said sometimes you're remembered not by your activities, but what you chose not to do.

In this particular case, looking at things such as the possible Greenwich gate as well as the Chestnut Street gate, here are two areas that have been historically closed. Perhaps it might be convenient,

but I can't help but think that the traffic patterns that have existed for quite some time--probably if we're talking about biodiversity and trying to keep a natural habitat, I think you should keep your traffic flows in the natural way that has been predicated for the last, I would say easily 60 years to 100 years in terms of the gate itself.

It's an interesting development which you have. You have obviously a circumstance where there's a lot of pressures put on you for your attention. But one thing I would also mention is to reach out to youth. There seems to be a lack of, say, musical programs or things to involve a key group of people who are, say, between the ages of 14 or 15 through 20. One of the issues is you'll get that youth involvement. You hardly see at these meetings any youth. And in theory, that's who we're leaving all this for. That's it.

Toby Rosenblatt: Thank you.

Mary Murphy: Let me just take a minute to respond for a second. Thank you for the comment. I think actually your last comment with respect to youth, I think is the sort of comment that is part of the dialogue we want to

have about cultural programming--one of the issues that Mr. Green raised in his comments. I agree with you completely that we have a special charge, I think, to address the needs of our youth in this community and the nation at large.

But I want to just comment on this because there have been several comments about the Greenwich gate issue. I think it's worth noting that this is one of the area where there's clearly a misunderstanding about what the intention is and what the function of that gate will be. That is not an automobile access gate. That is a bicycle and pedestrian path-only gate that will not be wide enough to accommodate a vehicle.

So the notion is—you're right, it has historically not been open. There has not been a breach in the wall there. And that is the Presidio's past as an Army base, where there was a wall to close out the neighborhood, in some respects, and to enclose the Presidio because it was an Army base. But in fact, the opening of that for bicycles and pedestrians is indicative of the Presidio's future as a park. There is no vehicular access through that proposed gate. It is

only bikes and pedestrians. And I want to reassure everyone that it will absolutely not be wide enough to accommodate a car.

So in that regard, I think this is an example where people have heard about this gate and have presumed it's a vehicular access, and that's just not the case. But I think it is exactly the right thing to be doing in terms of promoting this place as a park.

Toby Rosenblatt: Ruth Gravanis? Ruth Gravanis and then Ann Harvey.

Ruth Gravanis: Good morning. I'm Ruth Gravanis. First of all, I want to acknowledge the wonderful partnership that is forming between and among the Presidio Trust and the National Park Service and Golden Gate Audubon's Save the Quail campaign. It's a fantastic program that offers some hope that we might not actually cause the extirpation of the City's bird, the quail. And I'm very, very pleased about the Trust's involvement in that program.

Along those lines, I'd like to urge the Trust to consider forming a similar partnership with a number of groups to explore the causes of

the changes in species composition in the Presidio, as well as elsewhere, that are leading to increases in the numbers of ravens and other corvids that are preying on not just the quail but a number of species of native birds. I think that the Trust and Audubon, Point Reyes Bird Observatory and other groups, with the guidance of the Trust's very, very qualified biology staff, could do something significant to find out and eventually do something about the causes of those changes in our species composition.

I want to comment on an article that was in the latest Presidio Post about the Vegetation Management Plan and about the historic character study--first of all, to remind people that Major Jones' tree planting is not a forest. And while we've all accepted the idea of using the term "the Presidio forest" to refer to those plantings, it is just a metaphor. And every now and then it would be nice in our communications with the public to remind them, Major Jones' plantings are not really a forest.

As we look at the characteristics that make those plantings historic, to remember that just as with our buildings, where we introduce the

latest technology for green buildings and sustainability, we can be doing that with the plantings as well--keeping the overall characteristics that we respect of the historic aspects of Major Jones' forest, at the same time maximizing biodiversity. Biodiversity is an essential element of sustainability, and I think that it's extremely important that we not compromise the need to do whatever we can to maintain the wildlife values of the Presidio.

[applause]

Toby Rosenblatt: Thank you, Ruth. I assume you'll, or you probably are already in dialogue with Terri Thomas about those ideas? Or I hope you would be. Great.

Ann Harvey and Bill Hogue. Is Bill here? Yeah, I see. In the back. And he'll be followed by Mary McAllister.

Bill Hogue: I just wanted to say some comments about the PTIP process, and particularly ask for your support for the General Management Plan produced by the National Park Service. My concern is actually

written material that's already published. I want to begin with the vision that was written by the National Park Service. And it's that vision, I think, that's the heart of the Presidio. And to lose that heart, I think, is going to lose the Presidio. So please bear with me for one quick second.

The National Park Service vision calls for a new role that symbolizes the swords to plowshares concept. And in your vision statement, that is completely missing. The Park Service vision calls for programs that promote global cooperation. And it's because of those programs that they talk about a bright future with promise. And in your vision statement, without your future that's bright and promising, has nothing to do with global cooperation. And it seems to me you're missing the whole point of what the Presidio symbolizes. And the mission statement that you're proposing, I think, is basically negating the vision of the General Management Plan. I can't understand how you could say that the PTIP process that it's based on, a proposed vision statement, is implementing it.

I think that's all I have.

Toby Rosenblatt: Okay. Mary?

Male voice: Go ahead, Bill.

Bill Reilly: Bill, I thought that we had included that in the vision statement. I'll have another look at it. But our vision statement is intended to comprehend a whole range of contributions to solving cutting edge environmental problems and realizing the vision that was expressed some years ago for this park. We obviously have the additional responsibility that was not reflected in the earlier documents to make the park self-supporting. But the vision consistent with that is to realize, I think, some of the objectives that you described. We really hope that it's going to do that, and we'll have another look at it.

Toby Rosenblatt: Mary McAllister. Barbara Corff.

Macy McAllister: Hello, my name is Macy McAllister.

Toby Rosenblatt: Sorry.

Macy McAllister: I find it regrettable that in trying to work within the rules that you had set up for responses, that you couldn't allow my colleague a few extra minutes. Dialogue takes more time than two minutes. I hope that you can restructure it during the PTIP process. Thank you.

Toby Rosenblatt: Barbara Corff.

Barbara Corff: I'm Barbara Corff. I'm a volunteer docent for the National Park Service. I developed and lead the Tennessee Hollow watershed tour. I just wanted to say how much enthusiasm and interest this Tennessee Hollow watershed project is gaining. I wanted also to thank Holly Van Houten, who's the project manager from the Trust, and the inspiration of the urban watershed project that kind of got me inspired to do this in the first place.

I wanted to add how important it is that the Trust's side of the street completes the wonderful success that Crissy Field has had. My concerns would be the expansion of the tidal marsh across the street. And also, I believe it's crucial that the Doyle Drive issue is really

sensitive to the idea that Tennessee Hollow watershed should be a continuous, unbroken riparian corridor that's restored and has continuous access all the way from El Polin Springs to Crissy Field's saltwater marsh. Thank you.

Toby Rosenblatt: Okay. Thank you.

[applause]

That completes the speakers that have signed up. Yes, ma'am?

Jeanette Biagini-Berucca: I just have a reminder for the board. Can I--

Toby Rosenblatt: Absolutely. Sure.

Jeanette Biagini-Berucca: Good morning. I'm Jeanette Biagini-Berucca. I too am a native of San Francisco and a graduate of Lowell High School, as is Mr. Fisher. And I came here when I was a little child with my grandparents looking for mushrooms and on picnics. And so

the Presidio has been a very important part of my life.

I would like to remind all of you that with the existing east side entrances for Crissy Field, for the Exploratorium, for the Palace of Fine Arts, for the Lucas/Letterman development, and all the administrative office buildings around the Parade Ground, for the bowling alley, the theater, the Presidio chapel and cemetery, for the Golden Gate Club, for the Officers' Club, for the Post Office, for Burger King, for YMCA buildings, and a coming bank--I understand First Republic Bank is moving in. We already have a restaurant called Desiree that's already operating. We don't need or want any more buildings on this side of the Presidio. Please do not consider anything more on this east side of the Presidio. If you're going to do any building, consider it on the other side of the cemetery, and go out towards the ocean side. But we do not want or need anything more over here on this side of the Presidio. Thank you.

Toby Rosenblatt: Okay. That completes then the speakers and completes our meeting.  
We thank you very much. Could I have a motion for adjournment,  
please?

Bill Reilly: So moved.

Female voice: So moved.

Toby Rosenblatt: All those in favor? Opposed? It's done. Thank you very much.

[End of meeting]