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April 11, 2018

Members, Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee  
Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco  
City Hall  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

In Re: **"ClosingS of Skilled Nursing and Sub-Acute (Care) Units in San Francisco"**  
(BOS File No. 170773)

Dear Supervisors Peskin, Ronen and Sheehy:

During the last hundred to a hundred and fifty years, our antecedents exhumed all those who had predeceased them and were buried in the City to move them to new cemeteries in Colma so that, where they had previously been buried, could be rededicated for use as new commercial districts, hospitals, housing, parks and universities.

Today, we are now losing skilled nursing and sub-acute care units for the elderly and infirm who have been residing in the City (e.g., in St. Luke's Hospital, in Swindell's House at the California Pacific Medical Center, etc., etc.) so that their families are now forced to look outside of the City to find any such possibilities.

When and for whom will all of this end?

Sincerely,



Raymond R. Holland

**From:** [Ann Ludwig](#)  
**To:** [Carroll, John \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony for April 11/File 170773/Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 10, 2018 9:07:31 AM  
**Attachments:** [Swindells Ann's BOS presentation.docx](#)

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Dear Mr. Carroll:

Please put this testimony into the online file. It is about Swindell's Alzheimer's Residence, which is being shut down by CPMC/Sutter at the same time and manner as St. Luke's Subacute SNF, and therefore is relevant to the hearing. Thank you.

Ann Ludwig

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SUB-COM MEETING 4/11/18

My name is Ann Ludwig. My husband who is 79 and has advanced Alzheimer's has lived at Swindells Alzheimer's Residence for more than 3 years.

Despite our protests about the impact on the patients, CPMC/Sutter has decided to close this venerable facility with 25 licensed beds and move the 17 residents remaining there. We have their proposal to move as many as 14 of them as a group to Alma Via of San Francisco, a well-regarded facility, and to subsidize our cost to maintain it at the present Swindells level.

However, so far we have nothing in writing to guarantee the subsidy for comparable services at Alma Via, where the space they'll occupy is under renovation and unavailable to see. Yet we're pressed to make a decision to accept the proposal as soon as possible but at least by June.

If all goes well, our loved ones will have a new residence. But they lose their devoted caregivers, and the city loses the institutional know-how of this 21 year-old institution. And there will be a net loss of 11 beds for Alzheimer's/dementia care in San Francisco. What about the critical need for **more** residential care beds for this frail population, which could include any of us? We think hospitals have a legal responsibility as non-profits, and a civic duty, to partner with the city to assure sub-acute and dementia care. We call on our elected representatives to provide policies that will make that happen.

Thank you.  
Ann Ludwig  
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