

**INFORMATIONAL PACKET ON THE ISSUES
FACING BAYVIEW HUNTERS POINT, SAN FRANCISCO**

Created by Bayview Hunters Point Residents alongside
BVHP Mothers and Fathers Committee
Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice
Climate Reality Bay Area
San Francisco Shoreline Contamination Cleanup Coalition
Marie Harrison Community Foundation

Supported by
[list sign-on orgs]

Packet created in March 2023

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Historical Context

The Hunters Point Naval Shipyard (HPNS) Superfund site is located in the Bayview Hunters Point Community in southeast San Francisco. The HPNS is 866 acres and was an active shipyard from 1945 to 1974 as well as a Naval Radiological Defense Laboratory (NRDL) from 1948 to 1960 (EPA). The HPNS was deemed a superfund site in 1989 and still is today, which means this has been declared **a Superfund site for 34 years now**. The Navy is the lead agency managing the cleanup process for the HPNS. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), and the San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) are supposed to ensure the Navy's compliance with federal site cleanup requirements (NAVFAC, 2019). These government oversight agencies are failing at holding the Navy accountable and have allowed inadequate testing procedures. According to the Navy, HPNS was divided into parcels to "expedite the environmental cleanup efforts and to facilitate timely transfer of the property," revealing their priority to transfer the land to the City of San Francisco as quickly as they can.

The shipyard is a Federal Superfund waste site. It's one of the most contaminated places in the country, tainted by radioactivity, heavy metals, and other pollution. After the atomic bomb testing at Bikini Atoll in 1946, nearby navy vessels were heavily contaminated with radiation. These vessels were sent to the Hunters Point Naval Shipyard in San Francisco, where Navy scientists studied the effects of such radiation.

In 1989, the Environmental Protection Agency listed the Hunters Point Naval Shipyard Superfund Site on the National Priorities List. During the 1990s the Navy committed to cleaning up the HPNS and released the land to the City of San Francisco for unrestricted use. The San Francisco Police Department leased building 606 of the HPNS for the use of a substation where officer Christopher Lum worked for 12 years. Police officers including Christopher Lum began having concerns about radioactive exposure after witnessing soil samples taken by representatives in white jumpsuits. Officer Lum's concerns were verified when he found a lump on his neck in 2011 (Fagone and Dizikes, 2018).

Attempting to address the concerns of the Bayview Hunters Point Community and SFPD, the Navy contracted and paid Tetra Tech EC \$250,000.00 for six years of testing and clean up at the HPNS from 2006- 2012; however, developers had already begun to develop residential housing, community parks, and commercial venues on the 75 acres of transferred land. During the testing and clean-up, whistle blowers from Tetra Tech EC publicly admitted to submitting fraudulent soil in order to prove that the HPNS was free of radioactive toxic waste. The Two former Tetra Tech supervisors were sentenced to federal prison in 2017 after admitting they falsified records and swapped soil samples. Initially, the USEPA stated they did not believe the whistleblowers because they tested the land, however, the Navy and EPA ultimately found wider patterns of likely fraud or manipulation in many radioactivity measurements across the site.

Bayview Residents had long been concerned about the toxic acres next door. Dedicated and consistent community activism from community members and community partners led to effective action from the federal government. A formal investigation discovered the samples tested by Tetra Tech were not samples from the Naval shipyard, but fake samples brought in by Tetra Tech to test themselves.

After testing true soil at the Hunters Point Naval Superfund site [soil that had historically been at the site], radioactive toxic waste was found. The Navy later found substances in the soil at elevated levels requiring cleanup, including heavy metals like lead that can cause brain damage and industrial chemicals like benzene. As a result, the Navy revealed that Tetra Tech's measurements of radioactivity near the police building showed evidence of potential manipulation or falsification. On September 13, 2016, the USEPA and DTSC wrote a letter to the Navy demanding them to stop transferring land to the City of San Francisco for redevelopment use; however, testing of the parcels is still ongoing in 2023. The findings from the Tetra Tech scandal held up the biggest redevelopment project in San Francisco's history.

Additional resources for more information on Bayview Hunters Point:

- [*Two Tetra Tech employees sentenced to prison for falsifying soil records in SF Cancer Alley at the Hunters Point Shipyard \(May 2018\) KTVU*](#)
- [*Working in a Wasteland \(July 2018\) SF Chronicle*](#)
- [*Firm at center of Hunters Point fraud scandal rewarded with more work \(January 2019\) Curbed SF*](#)
- [*FROM CLEANUP TO COVERUP \(August 2019\) Committee to Bridge the Gap*](#)
- [*Dangerous Ground: Investigating the clean up of toxic former Navy sites in the Bay Area \(August 2020\) SF Chronicle*](#)
- [*Cancer Alley at the Hunters Point Shipyard \(January 2022\) SF Bayview News*](#)
- [*Arieann Harrison continues her mother's environmental justice advocacy for Bayview Hunters Point \(June 2022\) SF Bayview News*](#)
- [*For These Black Bayview-Hunters Point Residents, Reparations Include Safeguarding Against Rising, Toxic Contamination \(July 2022\) KOED*](#)

Consequences of the Shipyard Not Being Cleaned Up

The California government agencies' latest sea level rise projections for the San Francisco Bay shoreline are up to 1 foot by 2030 and 7.6 feet of sea level rise by 2100 (OPC, 2020). The SF Port has stated that the highest projection must be taken into account when planning shoreline resilience even if that scenario is less likely to occur and that "to defend San Francisco from current and future flood risks, there is a need to adapt the shoreline to address up to 7 feet of sea level rise that is projected by 2100" (SF Port, 2022). The Ocean Protection Council (OPC) also reports that "coastal impacts from climate change-caused SLR [sea level rise] will occur more quickly and be more severe than previously projected," which highlights the urgency of this threat and the need for immediate action (OPC, 2020). Sea-level rise poses the most risk to coastal communities, as they will be the most directly impacted, and the most severe threat is to the low-income, working-class, and people of color communities that already face environmental injustice, like in Bayview Hunters Point.

Sea level rise alone is not the only threat to shoreline communities in the bay. The rising sea level pushes groundwater towards the surface, causing groundwater rise and groundwater emergence on the ground surface. Kristina Hill, a University of California Berkeley Professor who studies groundwater rise, found that rising groundwater can infiltrate underground pipes, alter foundations, require underground waterproofing, remobilize old soil contaminants, emerge as surface water, and cause flooding (Hill 2020). The true threat of groundwater rise is not fully understood and more research is urgently needed in order to properly address this issue.

People living in Bayview Hunters Point right now are subject to industrial pollution, toxic fumes, diesel particulate matter from vehicle traffic, hazardous and solid waste, and threatened groundwater as a result of government inaction, environmental racism, and injustice. Because of these environmental factors, the community has extremely high CalEnviroScreen percentiles for exposures, environmental effects, and sensitive populations:

CalEnviroScreen data for census tract 6075980600: [non-exhaustive]

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|------------------|-----|
| Diesel Particulate Matter | 99 | Impaired Waters | 83 |
| Clean up sites | 91 | Solid Waste | 95 |
| Groundwater Threats | 100 | Asthma | 96 |
| Hazardous Waste | 93 | Low Birth Weight | 100 |

These percentiles are extremely high and grossly unacceptable. This community is exposed to multiple sources of pollution and toxins resulting in unjust health consequences.

For example, Bayview Hunters Point lies in the 96th percentile for asthma. This means that Bayview Hunters Point has a higher rate of asthma than 96% of California.

Community Concerns over the Years

Community concerns are also demonstrated by the volume of longstanding and thorough media coverage related to the Navy's cleanup at the Shipyard. All major media outlets have reported on the cleanup repeatedly over the last few years. A list representing a small sample of coverage dating from the present back to 2016 shows that media coverage has been constant, and all media outlets such as TV, radio, and newspapers, both online and print, have covered issues related to the cleanup. A simple search on the internet reveals the abundance of reports published in recent years. Sufficient and sustained community interest is further demonstrated by the focus of elected officials and their constituents on the Navy's environmental restoration activities at the Shipyard. For example, over a year ago, while calling for the San Francisco Board of Supervisors to hold hearings on the Shipyard cleanup, local representative Malia Cohen said, "I have families reaching out with questions about air quality. I have people asking about how to get out of their leases because they are concerned about the lives and safety of their families" (Waxmann, 2018). Cohen also mentioned that the Navy "has done an exceptionally poor job [at] communicating with the public" (Waxmann, 2018). More recently, the Mayor convened an independent review of the Navy's environmental restoration plans. These examples clearly demonstrate that community interest is significant and that it has persisted over a course of years.

In June 2022, the San Francisco Civil Grand Jury released a report about the Hunters Point Naval Shipyard titled "[Buried Problems and a Buried Process: The Hunters Point Naval Shipyard in a Time of Climate Change](#)" which includes five final findings and seven recommendations for the City and related agencies about the process and future plans for the HPNS. The report focuses on the potential impacts of groundwater rise and looks over the remedial methods used in various parcels and why and how they are inadequate. The Civil Grand Jury utilized recent studies on sea level rise and groundwater rise and used city, state, and regional reports to support their findings and recommendations however the City responded by disagreeing partially or wholly with almost all of the CGJ's findings and recommendations in the Report (London, 2022). As a result of these disagreements, the community is concerned the city will accept land from the Navy that is inadequately cleaned up. Currently, the city of San Francisco has the authority not to accept land that is inadequately cleaned up by the Navy, but the city continues to prioritize profit and development over the health of this community by accepting contaminated lands and having inadequate oversight over cleanup processes. This forces residents and community organizations to work hard to halt development, deindustrialize the community, and demand a complete cleanup of the radioactive and toxic waste in the HPNS superfund site. The impacted communities should not be responsible for doing this difficult work, however, independent community oversight is warranted and necessary due to historical distrust based on government failures.

Community Testimonials from Bayview Hunters Point Residents

Arieann Harrison- The longtime resident and community activist's urine test found nine types of heavy metals. One of the chemicals found in Arieann's body is manganese, which is a chemical that arises from the shipyard. Manganese leads to the development of brain damage. Arieann's Mother, Marie Harrison, died from long-term respiratory problems after working at the former Hunters Point Naval Shipyard for 25 years.

"I am scared for my life and scared for my children and the children of the community. Don't abandon us!" -Arieann Harrison



Kamillah Ealom- Longtime resident and 3rd generation Community Organizer of Bayview Hunters Point, Kamillah has suffered from chronic asthma since birth. Kamillah's childhood memories are centered around her constant hospitalizations at SF General Hospital due to chronic asthma that regularly turned into pneumonia and lung infections. She currently suffers from constant asthma attacks as well as liver toxicity, blindness, and musculoskeletal, digestive, and headache disorders.

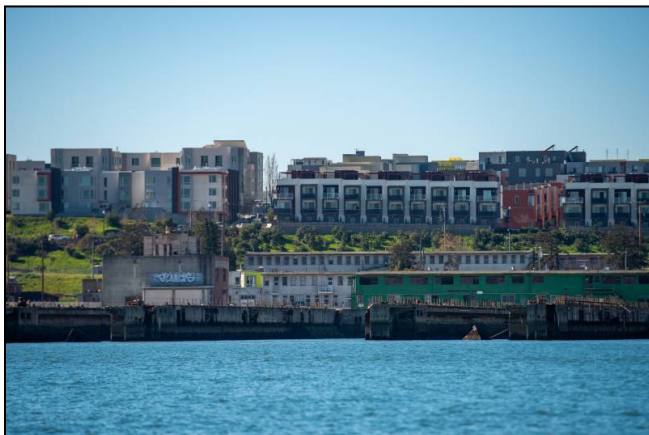
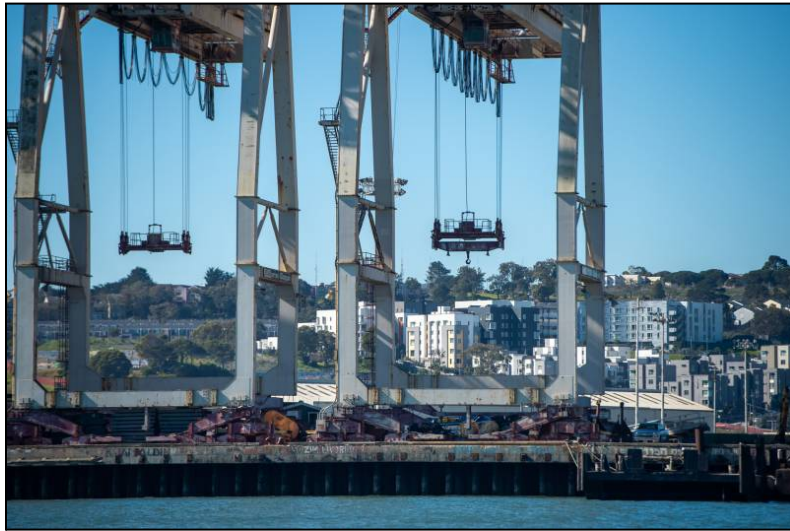
"How can I be expected to be grateful for a home that poisons me? We are expected to suffer and die young."
-Kamillah Ealom

Stanley Lovelace- Longtime resident Stanley Lovelace has suffered from severe damage to his nervous system and blindness from living and breathing Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) for over 60 years in Bayview Hunters Point. Stanley has been suffering from severe tremors in both of his hands for 25 years.

"My body is shutting down." -Stanley Lovelace



Additional Images of the Bayview Hunters Point Shipyard:



Letter to Navy

April X, 2023

Recipients:

Carlos Del Toro, Secretary of the Navy
William Franklin, US Navy, BRAD Public Affair

Dear Mr. Del Toro and Mr. Franklin,

We, the undersigned community, environmental justice, climate justice, social justice, environmental, and conservation groups are writing to express our concerns about the inadequate cleanup plans and practices at the Hunters Point Naval Shipyard Superfund Site in Bayview Hunters Point, San Francisco, California.

Very importantly, we call on the Navy and all government agencies to immediately use the latest scientific sea level rise and groundwater rise projections that render the Navy's current remediation plans inadequate and a threat to human health and the environment.

Specifically, we call on the Navy and government agencies to change the current remediation plan by requiring full cleanup and removal of all radioactive and toxic contamination that cannot be safely treated onsite, and reject capping of contamination. Leaving significant amounts and high levels of contamination capped at and near the shoreline is a recipe for disaster as rising sea levels and rising groundwater will eventually inundate the capped areas and mobilize and spread the contaminants into the San Francisco Bay and into already impacted communities.

People living and working in the Bayview Hunters Point neighborhood in San Francisco, California (BVHP), have been experiencing the effects of radioactive and toxic contamination from the Navy's Hunters Point Shipyard **for over 60 years**, which includes the past 34 year period that the Shipyard has been a federal Superfund Site on the National Priorities List.

As you know, there has been widespread public concern for decades about the inadequacy of the cleanup, including allegations of fraud, inadequate testing, inadequate remediation levels, and the failure of the Navy and federal government to consider climate change impacts when developing remediation plans that include capping of contamination at and near the shoreline. As the [San Francisco Civil Grand Jury report](#) documented, neither the Navy nor any government agency has meaningfully considered groundwater rise when deciding to leave large amounts of contamination capped despite the latest science on climate change impacts. None of the lead representatives from any of the regulatory agencies (USEPA, DTSC, and Water Board) attended the Board of Supervisor hearings on the Civil Grand Jury report recommendations and instead collaborated to provide a joint statement where they explicitly stated, "Superfund site cleanups should be implemented in a way that is adaptive to respond to climate change, including sea and groundwater level rise" ([Joint Regulatory Statement, 2022](#)) and we must ensure they uphold this commitment. The waterboard also submitted a letter shortly after this joint statement that states, "Hunters Point Naval Shipyard is one of our highest

priorities for cleanup due to the extent and type of contamination, the potential for exacerbating water quality impacts from climate change, and the community's long history and ongoing experience of environmental injustices" ([RWQCB, 2022](#)).

Unfortunately, the current and historical remediation strategies for the Shipyard have been grossly insufficient, have favored development, and have left in place or plan to leave capped radioactive and toxic waste where sea level rise and corresponding groundwater rise is expected to rise significantly in the coming decades.

We refer you to the California Environmental Protection Agency/Department of Toxic Substances Control's recently released February 2023 Sea Level Rise Guidance to DTSC Project Managers for Cleanup Activities. This regulatory guidance states in relevant part: "SLR adaptation planning should include pathways to resiliency to 3.5' by 2050 and 6.0' by 2100" (DTSC SLR Guidance, pg 4). DTSC's new guidance also states: "For sites where the remedy has already been selected: The remedy may require revision upon completion of the five-year review or upon introduction of new information that raises significant questions regarding protectiveness" (DTSC SLR Guidance, pg 14).

In addition, the Port of San Francisco's Waterfront Adaptation Strategies released in late 2022 calls for adapting the shoreline to address up to 7 feet of sea level rise that is projected by 2100, which is a higher projection than what was used in the latest DTSC report mentioned above (Port of SF, 2022).

Clearly, the plan to cap large amounts of dangerous contamination despite rising sea levels and groundwater is not protective of public health or the environment, and the plan must be changed.

As a result of the serious contamination and the failure to conduct a safe or proper cleanup, residents of the Bayview Hunters Point neighborhood continue to suffer from serious health impacts arising from the contamination at the Shipyard, including high rates of asthma and other respiratory illnesses, diabetes, cancer clusters, and premature deaths. Even California EPA's own CalEnviroScreen 4.0 confirms that Bayview Hunters Point is one of the most impacted and at-risk communities in the state due to pollution. In addition, long term and newer residents have never been fully informed about the extent of contamination or about the plans to cap large amounts of contamination on site.

The Bayview Hunters Point Community deserves justice now. The Hunters Point Naval Shipyard needs to be properly cleaned up to protect the people who live and work in the community and to protect our San Francisco Bay from toxic and radioactive contamination.

For these reasons, we ask the Navy and the government agencies to agree to the following issues in its cleanup plan for the Hunters Point Naval Shipyard Superfund Site:

1. **Stop capping waste near the shoreline** where rising sea levels and groundwater are predicted to flood the contaminated sites. Capping is NOT safe or acceptable. Notably, in the

Hunters Point Naval Shipyard, the remedial methods for contamination cleanup in parcels A, B, C, D-1, G, UC-1, UC-2, E, F, and UC-3 included a soil cover or capping which is unacceptable in the face of sea level rise and groundwater rise.

2. **Incorporate the [latest sea level rise](#) and [groundwater rise projections](#)**, such as from the recently published Guidelines from the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) "[Sea Level Rise Guidance to DTSC Project Managers for Cleanup Activities](#)" as well as the "[EPA Policy Memo Integration of EJ and Climate Change into NEPA 309 review](#)". Based on the worst case scenario data, cleanup plans must be revisited and updated to properly address the contamination risks from sea level and groundwater rise.

3. **Remove as much of the radioactive and toxic waste as humanly possible**, with a goal of 100% removal of any contamination that cannot be safely treated on site, in a manner that does not put residents, community members, workers, or the environment at risk.

4. **Ensure that waste that cannot be safely treated is disposed of in a licensed facility that has a non-expired permit and a permit that was not issued with a racially discriminatory process (e.g. with police intimidation or "English only" processes)**, a facility that has minimal environmental impact, is not located near a community of color or Native nation or other vulnerable community. Waste should not be sent to the Kettleman Hills or Clean Harbors Buttonwillow hazardous waste landfills (which have expired permits) and should not be sent to non-RCRA facilities out of state. We define the least harmful location to put waste as a place that is not easily disturbed by the elements, not a danger to animals and people, not near any communities or waterways, and not on tribal or sacred lands.

5. **Ensure that proper funding is available** for this more expanded clean-up plan.

6. **Re-test the Hunters Point Naval Shipyard with independent community oversight**, as recommended by the San Francisco Civil Grand Jury Report, "[Buried Problems and a Buried Process: The Hunters Point Naval Shipyard in a Time of Climate Change](#)", in order to restore trust in the clean-up process and to base the Navy's clean-up plan on the most current contamination data.

7. **Provide restorative funding for proper treatment and restitution to people** living in the Bayview Hunters Point neighborhoods on or near the contaminated sites, including for residents who have been chemically exposed and who are living with toxins in their bodies.

8. **Reinstate the Restoration Advisory Board for the Shipyard Superfund Site** which was improperly disbanded by the Navy. The community is entitled to meaningful input into the cleanup process at this critical time in the cleanup decision-making process.

Please join community, environmental justice, climate justice, social justice, environmental, and conservation groups, and uphold your commitment to protect predominantly Black communities and public health.

Respectfully, **[SIGNED by Community Groups and Members of Congress]**

Letter to the EPA

April X, 2023

Recipients:

Yana Garcia, Secretary for Environmental Protection

Michael Regan, USEPA Administrator

Martha Guzman, EPA Regional Administrator for the nation's Pacific Southwest Region (Region 9)

Meridith Williams, Director of the California Department of Toxic Substances Control

Dear _____,

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Very importantly, we call on the Navy and all government agencies to immediately use the latest scientific sea level rise and groundwater rise projections that render the Navy's current remediation plans inadequate and a threat to human health and the environment.

Specifically, we call on the Navy and government agencies to change the current remediation plan by requiring full cleanup and removal of all radioactive and toxic contamination that cannot be safely treated onsite, and reject capping of contamination. Leaving significant amounts and high levels of contamination capped at and near the shoreline is a recipe for disaster as rising sea levels and rising groundwater will eventually inundate the capped areas and mobilize and spread the contaminants into the San Francisco Bay and into already impacted communities.

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2. **Incorporate the [latest sea level rise](#) and [groundwater rise projections](#)**, such as from the recently published Guidelines from the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) "[Sea Level Rise Guidance to DTSC Project Managers for Cleanup Activities](#)" as well as the "[EPA Policy Memo Inegration of EJ and Climate Change into NEPA 309 review](#)". Based on the worst case scenario data, cleanup plans must be revisited and updated to properly address the contamination risks from sea level and groundwater rise.
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4. **Ensure that waste that cannot be safely treated is disposed of in a licensed facility that has a non-expired permit and a permit that was not issued with a racially discriminatory process (e.g. with police intimidation or "English only" processes)**, a facility that has minimal environmental impact, is not located near a community of color or Native nation or other vulnerable community. Waste should not be sent to the Kettleman Hills or Clean Harbors Buttonwillow hazardous waste landfills (which have expired permits) and should not be sent to non-RCRA facilities out of state. We define the least harmful location to put waste as a place that is not easily disturbed by the elements, not a danger to animals and people, not near any communities or waterways, and not on tribal or sacred lands.
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7. **Provide restorative funding for proper treatment and restitution to people** living in the Bayview Hunters Point neighborhoods on or near the contaminated sites, including for residents who have been chemically exposed and who are living with toxins in their bodies.
8. **Reinstate the Restoration Advisory Board for the Shipyard Superfund Site** which was improperly disbanded by the Navy. The community is entitled to meaningful input into the cleanup process at this critical time in the cleanup decision-making process.

Please join community, environmental justice, climate justice, social justice, environmental, and conservation groups, and uphold your commitment to protect predominantly Black communities and public health.

Respectfully,

[SIGNED by Community Groups and Members of Congress]

Works Cited

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From: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
To: [BOS-Supervisors](#); [BOS-Legislative Aides](#)
Cc: [Calvillo, Angela \(BOS\)](#); [Somera, Alisa \(BOS\)](#); [Ng, Wilson \(BOS\)](#); [De Asis, Edward \(BOS\)](#); [Mchugh, Eileen \(BOS\)](#); [BOS Legislation, \(BOS\)](#); [Cabrera, Stephanie \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: FW: SF Gray Panthers Request to SF Mayor London Breed to effectuate a comprehensive cleanup of the contamination of the Bayview Hunters Point Community
Date: Wednesday, June 21, 2023 2:47:49 PM
Attachments: [2023-01-17-New Logo with website.png](#)
[PACKET DRAFT.pdf](#)

Hello,

Please see below and attached for communication from the San Francisco Gray Panthers regarding File Nos. 220721 (Resolution No. 437-22) and 220720.

File No. 220721 (Resolution No. 437-22) - Board Response - Civil Grand Jury Report - Buried Problems and a Buried Process: The Hunters Point Naval Shipyard in a Time of Climate Change

File No. 220720 - Hearing - Civil Grand Jury Report - Buried Problems and a Buried Process - The Hunters Point Naval Shipyard in a Time of Climate Change

Sincerely,

Joe Adkins
Office of the Clerk of the Board
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102
Phone: (415) 554-5184 | Fax: (415) 554-5163
board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org | www.sfbos.org

From: Art Persyko <artpersyko@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 20, 2023 7:23 AM
To: Breed, Mayor London (MYR) <mayorlondonbreed@sfgov.org>
Cc: Board of Supervisors (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>; Peskin, Aaron (BOS) <aaron.peskin@sfgov.org>; Walton, Shamann (BOS) <shamann.walton@sfgov.org>; ChanStaff (BOS) <chanstaff@sfgov.org>; Preston, Dean (BOS) <dean.preston@sfgov.org>; Safai, Ahsha (BOS) <ahsha.safai@sfgov.org>; Ronen, Hillary <hillary.ronen@sfgov.org>; Stefani, Catherine (BOS) <catherine.stefani@sfgov.org>; MandelmanStaff, [BOS] <mandelmanstaff@sfgov.org>; MelgarStaff (BOS) <melgarstaff@sfgov.org>; EngardioStaff (BOS) <EngardioStaff@sfgov.org>; DorseyStaff (BOS) <DorseyStaff@sfgov.org>; Power, Andres (MYR) <andres.power@sfgov.org>; Owens, Sarah (MYR) <sarah.owens@sfgov.org>; Gluckstein, Lisa (MYR) <lisa.gluckstein@sfgov.org>; Lee, Ivy (MYR) <ivy.lee@sfgov.org>; Rana, Shalini (DPH) <shalini.rana@sfdph.org>; Ogwuegbu, Chiamaka (MYR) <chiamaka.ogwuegbu@sfgov.org>; MONS@sfgov.org; DPH, Health Commission (DPH) <HealthCommission.DPH@sfdph.org>; Colfax, Grant (DPH) <grant.colfax@sfdph.org>
Subject: SF Gray Panthers Request to SF Mayor London Breed to effectuate a comprehensive cleanup of the contamination of the Bayview Hunters Point Community

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Please take action that is responsive to the demands of our fellow San Franciscans who have suffered harm and now need remediation and justice*!

June 20, 2023

Office of the Mayor

City Hall
1 Dr Carlton B. Goodlett Place
Room 200
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Mayor Breed:

*The SF Gray Panthers call on you to everything in your power to effectuate a comprehensive cleanup of all radioactive and toxic contamination at the Shipyard and at Treasure Island with no capping of radioactive and toxic waste; and no cover up!

We write to you on behalf of SF Gray Panther members and more importantly, on behalf of our fellow San Franciscans who are residents of Bayview Hunters Point and Treasure Island San Francisco, who as you know reside in low-income and working class communities of color which are disproportionately and heavily impacted by many pollution sources, environmental racism and injustice.

As we are sure you are aware, the "testing" and "cleanup" of the radioactive and toxic contaminated

Hunters Point Shipyard Superfund Site has been plagued with fraud and inadequate cleanup. Similarly, concerns have long been raised by residents and environmental justice advocates about contamination and inadequate testing and cleanup at Treasure Island, where low income people of color live in subsidized housing literally on top of and next to radioactive and toxic waste left by the US Navy. In addition, as radioactive and toxic waste at both the Hunters Point Shipyard and Treasure Island are buried along the waterfront of San Francisco Bay, and as rising sea levels due to climate change threaten to inundate the contamination that includes residue from atomic bomb and radiological testing and can spread and have profound impacts on public health, safety and the environment not only in Bayview Hunters Point and Treasure Island but also in other neighborhoods adjacent to SF Bay, unless effective action to remedy the situation is taken immediately.

The unfortunate facts of this situation are well known to the public as well as SF elected officials and are documented here:

<https://48hills.org/2023/03/the-tragic-toxic-legacy-of-the-hunters-point-naval-shipyard/>

<https://48hills.org/2023/03/the-hunters-point-shipyard-art-survives-amid-toxic-waste/>

<https://48hills.org/2023/03/this-land-is-whose-land/>

We urgently request that you immediately take appropriate action without further delay, the absence of which could spread the damage and thus expand the cost of remediation.

The health of Bayview Hunters Point, Treasure Island residents are at risk—and now due to the delay in addressing this problem earlier-- residents in other neighborhoods in SF and around SF Bay, are now also at risk.

We look forward to a prompt response to our request for an investigation of this matter, followed by an effective plan of action.

*The SF Gray Panthers call on you to everything in your power to effectuate a comprehensive cleanup of all radioactive and toxic contamination at the Shipyard and at Treasure Island with no capping of radioactive and toxic waste; and no cover up!

For environmental health and justice for all,

-The San Francisco Gray Panthers Board: Ann Colichidas, Michael Lyon, Dr Teresa Palmer, Karen Fishkin, Matthew Holtz and Art Persyko

Cc: The San Francisco Board of Supervisors

Additional information resources:

1). INFORMATIONAL PACKET ON THE ISSUES FACING BAYVIEW HUNTERS POINT, SAN FRANCISCO Created by Bayview Hunters Point Residents alongside BVHP Mothers and Fathers Committee Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice Climate Reality Bay Area, San Francisco Shoreline Contamination Cleanup Coalition Marie Harrison Community Foundation:

2) Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice: "TICKING TIME BOMB: CLIMATE CHANGE, SEA LEVEL AND GROUNDWATER RISE, SHORELINE CONTAMINATION, AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IN THE

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA April 2023": <https://greenaction.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Shoreline-Contamination-and-Sea-Level-Rise-in-the-San-Francisco-Bay-Area.docx-2.pdf>