Subject: Letter of Support: Potrero Yard Modernization Project

## Honorable Members of the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Commission,

I am writing to express support for the Potrero Yard Modernization Project. The reimagined and rebuilt Potrero Yard would address much-needed transportation infrastructure improvements that support long-term resilient, safe, and efficient Muni operations of an all-electric bus fleet. Additionally, the new Potrero Yard would be enhanced with homes for low- to moderate-income households – the nation's first known joint development of a bus maintenance facility with housing. This project is critical for the City's future, helping San Francisco meet both its pressing housing needs, and growing our sustainable green transportation system which assists the City in meeting its climate goals.

The project developer team, Potrero Neighborhood Collective (PNC), includes both a national transportation developer, Plenary Americas, and local veteran community organizations: Mission Economic Development Agency, Young Community Developers, and Tabernacle Community Development Corporation. PNC's commitment to innovation and community inclusion is evidenced by its proposed design and program including the following priorities:

- Safe, Reliable, and Improved Muni Service with a bus yard that can house up to 213 electric trolleybuses (a 54% increase to the current fleet) and modern equipment to maintain the fleet, which will keep buses moving and meet transit riders' needs for years to come.
- **Employee Wellness** with a seismically safe modernized bus yard that also provides natural light, outdoor spaces, and recreation spaces for Muni employees.
- Maximizing Housing Units and Affordability by creating safe and stable homes for households that
  might otherwise be priced out of the City including working families, City employees, and those on a
  fixed income
- Improving Safety for Bicyclists and Pedestrians by enhancing the City's existing 17<sup>th</sup> Street bikeway along the project site with proposed Class IV bike lanes from Bryant Street to Hampshire Street, including concrete barriers and wider lanes where possible, and upgrading sidewalks and crossings. These improvements are in line with both the City's Vision Zero strategy, and our Climate Action Plan.
- New Commercial Spaces that Activate the streets and include a public restroom, a community-requested public benefit.
- Approach to Local Economic Inclusion that Prioritizes Southeast Corridor Communities through Local Business Enterprises (LBE) participation and Local Hire. This is achieved through committed proactive outreach to LBEs and residents of Southeast San Francisco, oversight of future selected general contractors, and transparent reporting.
- Culturally relevant public art that celebrates the people, values, history, and diverse culture of the Potrero Hill and Mission neighborhoods while also highlighting SFMTA's goal to provide reliable, safe, and affordable transportation for all.

I am urging you to support the Potrero Yard Modernization Project. We need a new bus yard that serves to improve transit reliability, while also providing public benefits, including new affordable housing on City-owned land, addressing the dire need for housing in the City.

Thank you for your ongoing advocacy for public transit. I look forward to your continued leadership on this crucial issue.

Sincerely,

Adrianna J. Zhang



2 Marina Blvd. Building C, Suite 260 San Francisco, CA 94123 AmericanIndianCulturalDistrict.org

December 14, 2023

Potrero Yard Modernization Project Team San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency 1 South Van Ness Avenue, 3rd floor San Francisco, CA 94103

Subject: American Indian Cultural District Letter of Support for Potrero Yard Modernization Project

To whom it may concern:

The American Indian Cultural District (AICD) is writing this letter to advocate in support of the Potrero Yard Modernization Project. The reimagined Potrero Yard would address much-needed transportation infrastructure improvements for safe, and efficient Muni operations of an all-electric bus fleet. Additionally, the proposed bus yard will include homes for low-to-moderate-income households within the future map boundaries of the American Indian Cultural District.

AICD serves the greater American Indian community by utilizing placemaking and place-keeping initiatives to preserve and celebrate our unique cultures, acting as a collective to strengthen our voices and increase our visibility, and advocating and creating community-strengthening policies aimed at equitable resource access, funding, and opportunities for American Indian people in San Francisco. We believe that culturally relevant and culturally competent initiatives are created and enacted by American Indians for American Indians.

Housing is a high-level focus area for AICD. American Indians are 17 times more likely to be homeless, have the lowest homeownership rates, and have the highest rental rates in San Francisco. In addition to the values outlined in the program design below, we support this project because we hope that it will help address the housing crisis faced by the local American Indian community we serve.

The project developer team, Potrero Neighborhood Collective (PNC), includes both a national transportation developer, Plenary Americas, and local veteran community organizations. PNC's commitment to innovation and community inclusion is evidenced by its proposed design and program which included the following priorities:

• Safe, Reliable, and Improved Muni Service with a bus yard that can house up to 213 electric trolleybuses (a 54% increase to the current fleet) and modern equipment to maintain the fleet, keep buses moving, and meet transit riders' needs.

- Employee Wellness with a seismically safe modernized bus yard that also provides natural light, outdoor spaces, and recreation spaces for Muni employees.
- Maximizing Housing Units and Affordability by creating safe and stable homes for households that
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- Improving Safety for Bicyclists and Pedestrians by enhancing the City's existing 17th Street bikeway along the project site with proposed Class IV bike lanes from Bryant Street to Hampshire Street, including concrete barriers and wider lanes where possible, as well as upgrading sidewalks and crossings. These improvements are known to support bicyclist, pedestrian, and vehicular safety in line with the City's Vision Zero efforts.
- New Commercial Spaces that Activate the streets and include a public restroom, a community-requested public benefit.
- Approach to Local Economic Inclusion that Prioritizes Southeast Corridor Communities through Local Business Enterprises (LBE) Participation and Local Hire. This is achieved through committed proactive outreach to LBEs and residents of Southeast San Francisco, oversight of future selected general contractors, and transparent reporting.
- Culturally relevant public art that celebrates the people, values, history, and diverse culture of the Potrero Hill and Mission neighborhoods while also highlighting SFMTA's goal to provide reliable, safe, and affordable transportation for all.

In conclusion, we hope you consider our request to support the Potrero Yard Modernization Project. We need a new bus yard that serves to improve transit reliability while also providing public benefits, including new housing on City-owned land to address the City's dire need for affordable housing.

Sincerely,

Sharaya Souza, Executive Director American Indian Cultural District

Mary Travis-Allen, Board President American Indian Cultural District Subject: Letter of Support: Potrero Yard Modernization Project

## Honorable Members of the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Commission,

I am writing to express support for the Potrero Yard Modernization Project as a Member of the Project's CommunityWorking Group. The reimagined and rebuilt Potrero Yard would address much-needed transportation infrastructure improvements that support long-term resilient, safe, and efficient Muni operations of an all-electric bus fleet. Additionally, the new Potrero Yard would be enhanced with homes for low- to moderate-income households – the nation's first known joint development of a bus maintenance facility with housing. This project is critical for the City's future, helping San Francisco meet both its pressing housing needs, and growing our sustainable green transportation system which assists the City in meeting its climate goals.

The project developer team, Potrero Neighborhood Collective (PNC), includes both a national transportation developer, Plenary Americas, and local veteran community organizations: Mission Economic Development Agency, Young Community Developers, and Tabernacle Community Development Corporation. PNC's commitment to innovation and community inclusion is evidenced by its proposed design and program including the following priorities:

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- New Commercial Spaces that Activate the streets and include a new public restroom for all to use.
- Approach to Local Economic Inclusion that Prioritizes Southeast Corridor Communities through Local Business Enterprises (LBE) participation and Local Hire. This is achieved through committed proactive outreach to LBEs and residents of Southeast San Francisco, oversight of future selected general contractors, and transparent reporting.
- Culturally relevant public art that celebrates the people, values, history, and diverse culture of the Potrero Hill and Mission neighborhoods while also highlighting SFMTA's goal to provide reliable, safe, and affordable transportation for all.

I am urging you to support the Potrero Yard Modernization Project. We need a new bus yard that serves to improve transit reliability, while also providing public benefits, including new affordable housing on City-owned land, addressing the dire need for housing in the City.

Thank you for your ongoing advocacy for public transit. I look forward to your continued leadership on this crucial issue.

Sincerely,

Alexander B.N. Hirji, Member, SFMTA Potrero Yard Modernization Project Working Group

alex M

From: Christian Vega

To: <u>Pantoja, Gabriela (CPC)</u>; <u>CPC-Commissions Secretary</u>

**Subject:** Potrero Yard Letter of Support

**Date:** Wednesday, January 10, 2024 8:47:45 AM

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To Whom it May Concern,

My name is Christian Vega and I'd like to submit a letter of support for the Potrero Yard project.

I'm currently a member of the project working group as a resident of the local neighborhood but my support for the project goes beyond that.

As a resident of the city for the last 6 years, I recognize that San Francisco is at a critical point in its development. There is shortage of housing amidst a population boom while the city struggles with an identity crisis. I believe that this project represents a small but important step in helping the city move forward.

By providing affordable housing and modernizing critical public transportation infrastructure, the Potrero Yard project achieves double the impact of many other projects. This effort has the opportunity to increase housing access and reduce congestion in the city while also beautifying the neighborhood.

Projects like these that combine housing and retail with infrastructure are common in places like Japan and, in my experience living there, encouraged me to use public transportation more. By making the station a destination in itself, it is no longer just a waypoint, but instead has the potential to be an integrated part of the neighborhood. I look forward to seeing more projects like this in the city and for that reason hope the planning commission considers approving the endeavor.

Regards, Christian Vega

### December 21, 2023

Subject: Letter of Support: Potrero Yard Modernization Project

I am writing on behalf of San Francisco Transit Riders to express support for the Potrero Yard Modernization Project. As a public transit advocacy organization, we believe the upgrades to Potrero Yard will improve transit service for transit riders, as well as the experience for workers. This project will have a positive impact on reducing the city's greenhouse gas emissions and improving equity by improving Muni facilities and providing new affordable housing. In order to meet our city's ambitious climate goals, it is crucial that we do all we can to ensure our public transit fleet is operating cleanly and efficiently.

The reimagined Potrero Yard would address much-needed transportation infrastructure improvements that support long term resilient, safe, and efficient Muni operations of an all-electric bus fleet. Additionally, the century-old bus yard would be enhanced with homes for low- to moderate-income households – the nation's first known joint development of a bus maintenance facility with housing.

The project developer team, Potrero Neighborhood Collective (PNC), includes both a national transportation developer, Plenary Americas, and local veteran community organizations: Mission Economic Development Agency, Young Community Developers, and Tabernacle Community Development Corporation. PNC's commitment to innovation and community inclusion is evidenced by their proposed design and program including the following priorities:

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- New Commercial Spaces that Activate the streets and include a public restroom, a community requested public benefit.
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- Culturally relevant public art that celebrates the people, values, history and diverse culture of the Potrero Hill and Mission neighborhoods while also highlighting SFMTA's goal to provide reliable, safe, and affordable transportation for all.

I am urging you to support the Potrero Yard Modernization Project as we need a new bus yard that serves to improve transit reliability while also providing public benefits, including new housing on City-owned land to address the City's dire need for affordable housing.

Thank you for your ongoing advocacy for public transit. I look forward to your continued leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

Dylan Fabris

Community & Policy Manager

San Francisco Transit Riders



January 5, 2024

Subject: Letter of Support: Potrero Yard Modernization Project

I am writing on behalf of Calle 24 Latino Cultural District to express support for the Potrero Yard Modernization Project. The reimagined Potrero Yard would address much-needed transportation infrastructure improvements that support long term resilient, safe, and efficient Muni operations of an allelectric bus fleet. Additionally, the century-old bus yard would be enhanced with homes for low- to moderate-income households – the nation's first known joint development of a bus maintenance facility with housing.

The project developer team, Potrero Neighborhood Collective (PNC), includes both a national transportation developer, Plenary Americas, and local veteran community organizations: Mission Economic Development Agency, Young Community Developers, and Tabernacle Community Development Corporation. PNC's commitment to innovation and community inclusion is evidenced by their proposed design and program including the following priorities:

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- New Commercial Spaces that Activate the streets and include a public restroom, a community
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- Approach to Local Economic Inclusion that Prioritizes Southeast Corridor Communities through Local Business Enterprises (LBE) participation and Local Hire. This is achieved through committed proactive outreach to LBEs and residents of Southeast San Francisco, oversight of future selected general contractors, and transparent reporting.

• Culturally relevant public art that celebrates the people, values, history and diverse culture of the Potrero Hill and Mission neighborhoods while also highlighting SFMTA's goal to provide reliable, safe, and affordable transportation for all.

I am urging you to support the Potrero Yard Modernization Project as we need a new bus yard that serves to improve transit reliability while also providing public benefits, including new housing on City-owned land to address the City's dire need for affordable housing.

Thank you for your ongoing advocacy for public transit. I look forward to your continued leadership on this issue.

Sincerely.

Erick Arguello Suelle Calle 24 Latino Cultural District

San Francisco Parks and Recreation Commission 501 Stanvan Street San Francisco, CA 94117

Email: recpark.commision@sfgov.org

December 20, 2023

Dear San Francisco Park and Recreation Commission,



Friends of Franklin Square

The Friends of Franklin Square board is writing to express our support for the proposed SFMTA Potrero Yard Modernization Project proposed by Potrero Neighborhood Collective (PNC). It is our opinion that the proposed project will benefit Franklin Square Park and the majority of its park users despite casting some shadows on the park. Our primary reasons are as follows:

- 1) The proposed residential development will become home to many residents who we believe will become new park users. Living in such close proximity to the park, we believe they will be invested in Franklin Square's well-being and will work towards improving it. More park users will further activate the park and improve park safety.
- 2) Although the Project as proposed does create a shadow on the children's playground, adult workout area and soccer field it does appear to be limited in duration. Our opinion is based upon our understanding that the project will increase the net new annual shadow on the park by to 3.13% from the current 1.77%. Our opinion recognizes that the new project will constrain the views from Franklin Square for park users from the current open air bus yard. Nevertheless, the severity of these issues does not, in our opinion, sufficiently negate the benefits the project will bring to Franklin Square.
- 3) Furthermore, PNC supported Friends of Franklin Square's several requests for community benefits including:
  - a) Construct and maintain a public restroom on-site, located at the corner of 17th & Bryant Street.
  - b) Construct a commercial space at the corner of Hampshire & 17th Street to increase street activation. The commercial space will also have a restroom available to customers.
  - Construct a raised pedestrian crosswalk at the corner of 17th & Hampshire Street.
  - d) Improve street safety on all streets bordering the Project through street lighting and activation (commercial space at 17th & Hampshire), residential, employee and bus entryways & vendor spaces on 17th Street.
  - e) Enhance bike lane safety on 17th Street with concrete medians and a wider lane.
  - f) Beautify streets and views from Franklin Square: The Project will include public art along 17th Street that celebrates the people, values and history of the

neighborhood. Street and podium level trees/greenery are planned throughout the Project.

Friends of Franklin Square is an all-volunteer operated organization that seeks to enhance and improve everyone's experience at our local park. FoFS was created in 2006 to rejuvenate Franklin Square Park. We are proud to announce a fully staffed Pit Stop station opened at Franklin Square in November 2023 through our advocacy work. Since 2007, our group has advocated and secured city funding to upgrade the park including a complete remodel of the playground in 2007, the installation of the Brotherhood of Man mosaic at the park in 2013 and, in 2020, the construction of a new adult outdoor workout area, park lighting and upgrades to the park's walking path. Friends of Franklin Square was recognized by the Neighborhood Empowerment Network in 2017 as an outstanding park volunteer group. We have 267 members on our email list.

SFMTA and the PNC team included a representative from Friends of Franklin as part of the Working Group, actively soliciting our feedback about the Project. Friends of Franklin Square worked hard to inform our neighbors about the Project via emails, social media posts, physical sign posting at the park and inviting PNC to present to our group.

Results from our outreach are generally positive and were shared with us verbally at the SFMTA/PNC group presentation. Our recent email soliciting additional feedback received one negative response which we are including in Appendix A.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us via email at friendsoffranklinsquare@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Friends of Franklin Square Board

Alejandro Abogado

Anjuli Piya

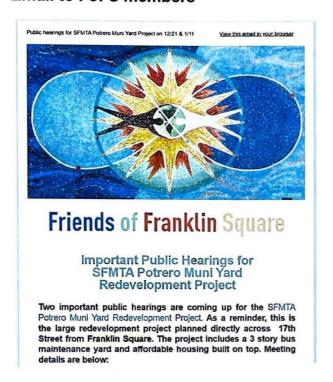
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Jolene Yee

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# Appendix A: Outreach & Public Comments:

# **Email to FoFS members**



#### Post on Nextdoor



# Sign postings at Franklin Square Park

# Public Hearings for SFMTA Potrero Yard Redevelopment Project



SF Rec & Park Hearing 12/21/2023 @ 10 a.m. City Hall Room 416 recpark.commission@sfeov.org SF Planning Hearing
1/11/2024 @ noon
City Hall Room 400
commissions.secretary@slgov.org

# Public comment received:

Feedback/Opinions on SFMTA Potrero Muni Yard Redevelopment Project D Inbox x

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Wed, Dec 13, 2:45 PM (5 days ago)





I wonder how much money are you going to take to sell out your organization's namesake park, like you did your neighbors on Bryant St. a while back? The park will be losing sunlight from that decision that you supported. If you support this one, pretty soon they'll need to keep the field lights on 24/7.

I hope you rise to the occasion and defy this further attempt by developers to take away our quality of life so that they can rake in the \$\$\$.

From: Garrett Sadler

To: Pantoja, Gabriela (CPC); CPC-Commissions Secretary; potreroyard@sfmta.com

**Subject:** Letter of support for Potrero Yard modernization

**Date:** Friday, January 5, 2024 6:11:44 PM

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## Hello,

I am writing [on behalf of to express support for the Potrero Yard Modernization Project. The reimagined Potrero Yard would address much-needed transportation infrastructure improvements that support long term resilient, safe, and efficient Muni operations of an allelectric bus fleet. Additionally, the century-old bus yard would be enhanced with homes for low- to moderate-income households – the nation's first known joint development of a bus maintenance facility with housing.

The project developer team, Potrero Neighborhood Collective (PNC), includes both a national transportation developer, Plenary Americas, and local veteran community organizations: Mission Economic Development Agency, Young Community Developers, and Tabernacle Community Development Corporation. PNC's commitment to innovation and community inclusion is evidenced by their proposed design and program including the following priorities:

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Maximizing Housing Units and Affordability by creating safe and stable homes for households that might otherwise be priced out of the City including working families, City employees, and those on a fixed income.

Improving Safety for Bicyclists and Pedestrians by enhancing the City's existing 17th Street bikeway along the project site with proposed Class IV bike lanes from Bryant Street to Hampshire Street, including concrete barriers and wider lanes where possible, as well as upgrading sidewalks and crossings. These improvements are known to support bicyclist, pedestrian, and vehicular safety in line with the City's Vision Zero efforts.

New Commercial Spaces that Activate the streets and include a public restroom, a community requested public benefit.

Approach to Local Economic Inclusion that Prioritizes Southeast Corridor Communities through Local Business Enterprises (LBE) participation and Local Hire. This is achieved through committed proactive outreach to LBEs and residents of Southeast San Francisco, oversight of future selected general contractors, and transparent reporting.

Culturally relevant public art that celebrates the people, values, history and diverse culture of the Potrero Hill and Mission neighborhoods while also highlighting SFMTA's goal to provide reliable, safe, and affordable transportation for all.

I am urging you to support the Potrero Yard Modernization Project as we need a new bus yard that serves to improve transit reliability while also providing public benefits, including new housing on City-owned land to address the City's dire need for affordable housing.

Thank you for your ongoing advocacy for public transit. I look forward to your continued
leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

Garrett Sadler

Subject: Letter of Support: Potrero Yard Modernization Project

I am writing to express support for the Potrero Yard Modernization Project. I live near new the project and believe in its mission to create more desperately needed housing for San Francisco as well as modernize the 100-year Muni station to ensure this mass transit hub stays vital. Most of all I'm excited to have new neighbors and the energy they will bring to the neighborhood.

The reimagined Potrero Yard would address much-needed transportation infrastructure improvements that support long term resilient, safe, and efficient Muni operations of an all-electric bus fleet. Additionally, the century-old bus yard would be enhanced with homes for low- to moderate-income households – the nation's first known joint development of a bus maintenance facility with housing.

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I am urging you to support the Potrero Yard Modernization Project as we need a new bus yard that serves to improve transit reliability while also providing public benefits, including new housing on City-owned land to address the City's dire need for affordable housing.

Thank you for your ongoing advocacy for public transit. I look forward to your continued leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

Heather Dunbar



# Stable families, healthy communities

December 14, 2023

San Francisco Planning Commission City Hall - Room 400 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

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Shellena Eskridge, Executive Director

Martha Ryan, Founder Subject: Letter of Support: Potrero Yard Modernization Project

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing on behalf of Homeless Prenatal Program to express support for the Potrero Yard Modernization Project. The reimagined Potrero Yard would address much-needed transportation infrastructure improvements that support long term resilient, safe, and efficient Muni operations of an all-electric bus fleet. Additionally, the century-old bus yard would be enhanced with homes for low-to moderate-income households – the nation's first known joint development of a bus maintenance facility with housing. As an organization that has helped families find stable, affordable housing in San Francisco for over thirty years, we know the critical need for the housing this project will help address.

The project developer team, Potrero Neighborhood Collective (PNC), includes both a national transportation developer, Plenary Americas, and local veteran community organizations: Mission Economic Development Agency, Young Community Developers, and Tabernacle Community Development Corporation. PNC's commitment to innovation and community inclusion is evidenced by their proposed design and program including the following priorities:

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I urge you to support the Potrero Yard Modernization Project as we need a new bus yard that serves to improve transit reliability while also providing public benefits, including new housing on City-owned land to address the City's dire need for affordable housing.

Thank you for your ongoing advocacy for public transit. I look forward to your continued leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

Shellena Eskridge

**Executive Director** 

From: Linda Appu

To: Pantoja, Gabriela (CPC); CPC-Commissions Secretary; PotreroYard@sfmta.com

**Subject:** Letter of Support: Potrero Yard Modernization Project

**Date:** Monday, January 8, 2024 8:26:43 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources

I am writing to express my support for the Potrero Yard Modernization Project. The reimagined Potrero Yard would address much-needed transportation infrastructure improvements that support long term resilient, safe, and efficient Muni operations of an all-electric bus fleet. Additionally, the century-old bus yard would be enhanced with homes for low- to moderate-income households – the nation's first known joint development of a bus maintenance facility with housing.

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**Culturally relevant public art** that celebrates the people, values, history and diverse culture of the Potrero Hill and Mission neighborhoods while also highlighting SFMTA's goal to provide reliable, safe, and affordable transportation for all.

I am urging you to support the Potrero Yard Modernization Project as we need a new bus yard that serves to improve transit reliability while also providing public benefits, including new housing on City-owned land to address the City's dire need for affordable housing.

Thank you for your ongoing advocacy for public transit. I look forward to your continued leadership on this issue.

Sincerely, Linda Appu From: <u>Magda de Melo Freitas</u>
To: <u>Pantoja, Gabriela (CPC)</u>

Subject: Fwd: Potrero Yard Modernization - substantial increase of exposure to air toxic pollutants issue and mesh facade

at Hampshire street

**Date:** Wednesday, January 10, 2024 6:59:59 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources

## Hi Gabriela,

I am forwarding the email I just sent to Debra Dwyer since I had your email address wrong. See below,

Thanks,

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Magda de Melo Freitas < magdammelo@gmail.com >

Date: Wed, Jan 10, 2024 at 6:48 PM

Subject: Potrero Yard Modernization - substantial increase of exposure to air toxic pollutants

issue and mesh facade at Hampshire street

To: <<u>debra.dwyer@sfgov.org</u>>, <<u>gabriela.pantoja@sfgov.br</u>>,

<<u>commissions.secretary@sfgov.org</u>>

#### Hi Debra,

My name is Magda, I am part of the Potrero Yard Modernization Working Group and live across the Potrero Muni Yard. Yesterday, and many times before, I expressed during our monthly meetings my concern related to the EIR Analysis of Air Pollutant Emissions and tried to discuss ways to mitigate this important issue.

One of my questions to the Potrero Yard Project EIR DRAFT dated August 30, 2021, is: "7. The proposed project will contribute negatively to the air quality and will provide considerable health risk impacts on the new residents of the project and those living in the vicinity. Can this EIR include a mitigation measure to turn this "significant and unavoidable impact" into a "less than significant impact?"

The "RESPONSE AQ-1: Exposure of Sensitive Receptors to Toxic Air Contaminant" does not address our concern regarding the substantial increase of exposure to air toxic pollutants that this project will generate during the operational phase, post-construction.

The RESPONSE AQ-1 clearly states "As a result, the analysis conservatively concludes that construction and operation of the Draft EIR Project could result in a <u>substantial increase in the exposure of sensitive receptors to TACs and the impact on local air quality would be significant."</u>

My main concern is that the schematic design of the Potrero Yard proposes an "open mesh" to "enclose" the 2nd and 3rd floor of the Potrero Yard Building facing Hampshire Street.

This "open mesh" is not an enclosure but an open surface that cannot contain the pollutants generated by the buses, the service cars, and other activities like the car wash, vehicle tires, etc.

Not only the activities on the 2nd and 3rd floors will generate pollution and dust, but also noise, and light pollution at night in particular.

Currently, the activities on the existing Muni Potrero Yard facing Hampshire Street are contained behind a wall. We understand that the fact that this project proposes an increase in the size of the facade, and making this facade mainly open will negatively impact the air quality in that area. Note that the proposed mesh area is very large and extends the whole Hampshire Street facade longitudinally with two double-height floors.

Could one of the mitigation measures be to make the 2nd and 3rd floors contained or partially contained with a surface other than an open mesh to control the emission of pollutants, noise, and light pollution? Could the EIR include a mitigation measure addressing this issue?

Thank you,

Magda Freitas

From: Pedro Freitas

To: <u>Pantoja, Gabriela (CPC)</u>

**Subject:** Potrero Yard Project public comment for EIR hearing

**Date:** Thursday, January 11, 2024 9:26:06 AM

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#### Hello Gabriela.

structure.

My name is Pedro Freitas and I am the current president of the HOA at 475 Hampshire street. Our building faces the Potrero Yard Project.

I would like to bring to your attention, and express it as a public comment in the EIR hearing, that we are concerned with multiple impacts of the project on the quality of life of our residents.

The EIR identified air pollution impact during construction and during regular operation of the Yard. The EIR has not addressed the impact on our residents from dust and other pollutants that will pass through the open mesh facade of the Project on Hampshire street.

All units of our building depend on the front windows for ventilation that face the project. This concerned has been raised with the project designers and remains undressed. Similarly, the project mesh facade will impact our residents with light and noise levels. All bedrooms of all of our units face the Project with floor to ceiling windows. The proposed project design will significantly increase noise and light levels compared to the existing Yard

These concerns have all been expressed to the design team and have been largely ignored. The answers we have received so far do not address any of these concerns.

I cannot attend the hearing today due to travel. I would be appreciative if these comments can be expressed on our behalf.

Thanks you in advance, Pedro Freitas 475 Hampshire Street HOA From: Peter Belden <pbelden@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2023 9:02 AM

To: Pantoja, Gabriela (CPC); PotreroYard@sfmta.com Subject: support for Potrero Yard Modernization Project

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

## Dear Planning Commission,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Potrero Yard Modernization Project. As a member of the Potrero Yard Neighborhood Working Group and a Potrero resident who lives near the project site I have had the opportunity to learn in depth about the project and to hear a range of constituencies express their opinions and ask questions.

This project is particularly urgent for three reasons:

- 1. **Housing density** San Francisco needs a dramatic increase in the amount of housing and in housing density. This density will promote economic growth, improve transit utilization and convenience and is a critical step in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- 2. **Improved transit** The project provides much-needed transportation infrastructure improvements that support long term resilient, safe, and efficient Muni operations of an all-electric bus fleet. The new bus yard would house 54% more buses as well as the modern equipment to maintain the expanded fleet.
- 3. **Housing affordability** The project is 100% affordable, below market, providing hundreds of units to lower income residents and families. The city is behind in achieving state mandated levels of affordable housing and this project is an essential opportunity for progress.

I expect that there may be one or two voices expressing concern about the amount of shadow the new building would create for the nearby park. In a small dense city like San Francisco there are always trade-offs. To me it is 100% clear that the imperative to address the dire emergency of the climate crisis by building more dense housing in urban centers and promoting electrified public transit makes the resulting shadow impact a trivial cost and well worth the trade-off. Furthermore, providing affordable housing for several hundred low income residents and families is also well worth creating a small amount of shadow on a park. Shadow is not entirely a bad thing. Cities need to provide more shadow to reduce the heat island effect and make up for shadow that would have been provided by trees where buildings stand.

Community outreach has been exhaustive. The project developer team, Potrero Neighborhood Collective (PNC), includes both a national transportation developer, Plenary Americas, and local veteran community organizations: Mission Economic Development Agency, Young Community Developers, and Tabernacle Community Development Corporation. They have partnered with SFMTA to do extensive outreach and provide transparent information to the community over the course of multiple years. They have more than achieved the necessary amount of outreach and have made information and contact people easily available. If anything the project has been too slow because of the extensive amount of public outreach and engagement.

## Safety for People Walking and Biking

There is one area where some critical improvements are still needed in the project design, safety of people walking and biking along 17th Street in front of Potrero Yard. The new development appropriately provides zero resident parking spaces and few if any parking spaces for employees. This will dramatically increase the number of people walking and biking along 17th St, an already busy corridor for walking and biking. However the current design, because of unreasonable demands from the SF fire department, does not include the typical minimum safety features, such as a six-inch concrete curb to protect the bike lane. Specifically the fire code makes clear that a six-inch curb does not impede emergency vehicle access and thus is appropriate for this location. However, a few individuals in the SF Fire Department are ignoring the fire code and are insisting that safety for people walking and biking be compromised and that six-inch curb protection not be provided. Instead they demand a mountable curb which does not provide adequate safety. This is particularly unnecessary given that this new building will meet the most current fire code and have the latest in fire prevention features. The risk of a fire is greatly reduced in this type of brand new building. But most importantly six-inch curbs are consistent with the fire code and we cannot allow the fire department to undermine safety of people walking and biking a time when roughly thirty people are killed each year in traffic crashes in San Francisco.

To be blunt, fire safety is not what is driving the decisions by SFMTA and the developer team to undermine safety for people walking and biking along 17th Street. Rather it is mayoral politics that is driving the bad decisions. The fire department and its union have political power and have shown they are able to bully this mayor. Thus current SFMTA leaders have been unwilling to stand up for safety because they do not have the backing of the mayor in the face of fire department criticism.

As the Planning Commission you have the ability to stand up to this abuse of power. We must insist that SFMTA implement the following essential improvements to the pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure in the project:

- 1. six-inch concrete curb not mountable curb protection for bike lanes
- protected corners including corner islands at both intersections on 17th Street. This would be safer for pedestrians than bulb outs and would considerably improve safety for people on bicycles. Adjustments to the sidewalk can be made to create space for both bus turning radius and protected corners
- 3. the elimination of mixing zones where the protection of the bike lane disappears and vehicles may enter the bike lane

The Potrero Yard Modernization Project is a rare opportunity and an essential step forward for the city on housing, transportation, equity and sustainability. I urge you to approve the project with haste so that it can be implemented quickly.

Peter Belden 519 Vermont St San Francisco, CA 94107



#### 12/18/2023

Subject: Letter of Support: Potrero Yard Modernization Project

I am writing on behalf of Cultura y Arte Nativa de las Americas (CANA) to express support for the Potrero Yard Modernization Project. The reimagined Potrero Yard would address much-needed transportation infrastructure improvements that support long term resilient, safe, and efficient Muni operations of an all-electric bus fleet. Additionally, the century-old bus yard would be enhanced with homes for low- to moderate-income households – the nation's first known joint development of a bus maintenance facility with housing.

The project developer team, Potrero Neighborhood Collective (PNC), includes both a national transportation developer, Plenary Americas, and local veteran community organizations: Mission Economic Development Agency, Young Community Developers, and Tabernacle Community Development Corporation. PNC's commitment to innovation and community inclusion is evidenced by their proposed design and program including the following priorities:

- Safe, Reliable, and Improved Muni Service with a bus yard that can house up to 213 electric trolleybuses (a 54% increase to the current fleet) and modern equipment to maintain the fleet and keep buses moving and meet transit riders' needs.
- **Employee Wellness** with a seismically-safe modernized bus yard that also provides natural light, outdoor spaces, and recreation spaces for Muni employees.
- Maximizing Housing Units and Affordability by creating safe and stable homes for households that might otherwise be priced out of the City including working families, City employees, and those on a fixed income.
- Improving Safety for Bicyclists and Pedestrians by enhancing the City's existing 17<sup>th</sup> Street bikeway along the project site with proposed Class IV bike lanes from Bryant Street to Hampshire Street, including concrete barriers and wider lanes where possible, as well as upgrading sidewalks and crossings. These improvements are known to support bicyclist, pedestrian, and vehicular safety in line with the City's Vision Zero efforts.
- New Commercial Spaces that Activate the streets and include a public restroom, a community requested public benefit.
- Approach to Local Economic Inclusion that Prioritizes Southeast Corridor Communities through Local Business Enterprises (LBE) participation and Local Hire. This is achieved through committed proactive outreach to LBEs and residents of Southeast San Francisco, oversight of future selected general contractors, and transparent reporting.
- Culturally relevant public art that celebrates the people, values, history and diverse culture of the Potrero Hill and Mission neighborhoods while also highlighting SFMTA's goal to provide reliable, safe, and affordable transportation for all.

I am urging you to support the Potrero Yard Modernization Project as we need a new bus yard that serves to improve transit reliability while also providing public benefits, including new housing on City-owned land to address the City's dire need for affordable housing.

Thank you for your ongoing advocacy for public transit. I look forward to your continued leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

Roberto G. Hernandez

Roberto Y. Hernandez

CEO, Cultura y Arte Nativa de las Americas

## **January 9, 2024**

Subject: Letter of Support: Potrero Yard Modernization Project

I am writing Raven McCroey to express support for the Potrero Yard Modernization Project. The reimagined Potrero Yard would address much-needed transportation infrastructure improvements that support long term resilient, safe, and efficient Muni operations of an all-electric bus fleet. Additionally, the century-old bus yard would be enhanced with homes for low- to moderate-income households – the nation's first known joint development of a bus maintenance facility with housing.

The project developer team, Potrero Neighborhood Collective (PNC), includes both a national transportation developer, Plenary Americas, and local veteran community organizations: Mission Economic Development Agency, Young Community Developers, and Tabernacle Community Development Corporation. PNC's commitment to innovation and community inclusion is evidenced by their proposed design and program including the following priorities:

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- Culturally relevant public art that celebrates the people, values, history and diverse culture of the Potrero Hill and Mission neighborhoods while also highlighting SFMTA's goal to provide reliable, safe, and affordable transportation for all.

I am urging you to support the Potrero Yard Modernization Project as we need a new bus yard that serves to improve transit reliability while also providing public benefits, including new housing on City-owned land to address the City's dire need for affordable housing.

Thank you for your ongoing advocacy for public transit. I look forward to your continued leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

December 19, 2024

San Francisco Recreation & Parks Commission

Re: Potrero Yard Modernization Rebuild

Dear Recreation & Parks Commissioners:

I am writing as a member of the Potrero Yard Neighborhood Working Group. I was appointed to the working group earlier this year. I have spent most of my career as a developer of affordable housing, working in community-based nonprofit organizations in San Francisco. More than a decade ago, I was part of the group that advocated for San Francisco to require that publicly owned parcels that were considered "surplus" would be dedicated for affordable housing.

The current project, combining the modernization of the outdated Potrero bus yard with new construction of hundreds of units of affordable housing, is a natural succession to the original surplus property law, recognizing that public lands be considered, whenever possible, as opportunities for affordable housing. While the project faces extraordinary challenges in keeping the twin goals of transportation infrastructure and affordable housing moving on parallel tracks, the MTA has assembled an impressive development team to make it happen. In particular, the selection of the affordable housing development partnership of Mission Economic Development Agency, Young Community Developers, and Tabernacle Community Development Corporation – three committed, experienced, accountable, community-based organizations – ensures that the housing component will be – as promised to the community – 100% affordable.

The sustainability of our City (and our planet) depends on having state-of-the-art public transit and adequate affordable housing for low- and moderate-income people. The recently issued Regional Housing Needs Allocation sets a goal for San Francisco to produce 46,598 affordable homes by 2031. Without cutting-edge projects like the Potrero Yard rebuild, we will never come close to achieving that goal. I urge you to support this thoughtful and much-needed project, and to continue to look for innovative solutions to meet San Francisco's desperate affordable housing needs.

Sincerely,

Amy Beinart amybeinart@gmail.com

Subject: Letter of Support: Potrero Yard Modernization Project

I am writing on behalf of Little Mission Studio, a business located on Hampshire Street across from the Potrero Yard, to express support for the Potrero Yard Modernization Project. The reimagined Potrero Yard would address much-needed transportation infrastructure improvements that support long term resilient, safe, and efficient Muni operations of an all-electric bus fleet. Additionally, the century-old bus yard would be enhanced with homes for low- to moderate-income households – the nation's first known joint development of a bus maintenance facility with housing.

The project developer team, Potrero Neighborhood Collective (PNC), includes both a national transportation developer, Plenary Americas, and local veteran community organizations: Mission Economic Development Agency, Young Community Developers, and Tabernacle Community Development Corporation. PNC's commitment to innovation and community inclusion is evidenced by their proposed design and program including the following priorities:

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I am urging you to support the Potrero Yard Modernization Project as we need a new bus yard that serves to improve transit reliability while also providing public benefits, including new housing on City-owned land to address the City's dire need for affordable housing.

One area that could use your help is navigating all the organizations to design the streets around the yard to best support the entire community. Plenary Americas assures me that they do not have a say in planning the streets, but could not point me to who does. The latest designs that I have seen remove the only handicapped parking for Franklin Square Park, and remove significant existing parking around the project by adding several loading zones and bulb outs as well as changing Hampshire street from head in to parallel parking. All this while increasing the number of people living and working in the block. The loss of handicap access to Franklin Square park seems to be reducing accessibility in the neighborhood. The change of parking to Hampshire street will mean that the delivery/pickup trucks visiting the PDR businesses with loading garages on Hampshire street will block both the sidewalk and the traffic lanes by no longer having the ability to back into the garage with the buffer of the head-in parking.

Thank you for your ongoing advocacy for public transit, and the overall community where the transit garages are located. I look forward to your continued leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

Christian F. Howes Co-Founder Little Mission Studio Subject: Letter of Support: Potrero Yard Modernization Project

I am writing on behalf of Little Mission Studio, a business located on Hampshire Street across from the Potrero Yard, to express support for the Potrero Yard Modernization Project. The reimagined Potrero Yard would address much-needed transportation infrastructure improvements that support long term resilient, safe, and efficient Muni operations of an all-electric bus fleet. Additionally, the century-old bus yard would be enhanced with homes for low- to moderate-income households – the nation's first known joint development of a bus maintenance facility with housing.

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Thank you for your ongoing advocacy for public transit, and the overall community where the transit garages are located. I look forward to your continued leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

Christian F. Howes Co-Founder Little Mission Studio From: <u>CPC-Commissions Secretary</u>

Cc: Pantoja, Gabriela (CPC); Feliciano, Josephine (CPC)

Subject: FW: Planning Commission: Support for Potrero Yard Modernization Project

**Date:** Thursday, January 11, 2024 11:11:54 AM

Best,
Josephine O. Feliciano, Planning Technician II
Commission Affairs

San Francisco Planning

49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1400, San Francisco, CA 94103

Direct: 628.652.7600 | www.sfplanning.org San Francisco Property Information Map

From: Scott Feeney <scott@oceanbase.org>
Sent: Thursday, January 11, 2024 8:22 AM

**To:** CPC-Commissions Secretary < commissions.secretary@sfgov.org>

Cc: PotreroYard < PotreroYard@sfmta.com>

Subject: Planning Commission: Support for Potrero Yard Modernization Project

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

## Planning Commissioners,

I'm writing to express support for the Potrero Yard Modernization Project. This is a critical project for meeting Muni's operational needs to keep San Francisco moving, as well as adding much-needed affordable housing for low- and moderate-income households.

Other benefits include economic inclusion through local hire, culturally relevant art, new commercial space to activate the street, a new bathroom serving visitors to Franklin Square Park, and bicycle and pedestrian safety improvements on 17th Street.

As a Mission District neighbor and housing advocate, I've served on the Potrero Yard Neighborhood Working Group since 2018 and seen how this project has come together, shaped by real outreach and genuine community feedback. The SFMTA, and more recently the developer team Potrero Neighborhood Collective, have been transparent and responsive with the public, and I trust them to deliver a great project that benefits the neighborhood and city.

I urge you to approve the Potrero Yard Modernization Project today.

Thank you,

Scott Feeney

Potrero Yard Neighborhood Working Group Member and Mission District neighbor

From: <u>Armand Domalewski</u>

To: Pantoja, Gabriela (CPC); commissions.secretary@sfgov.org; PotreroYard

**Subject:** In Support of the Potrero Yard Project **Date:** Friday, January 5, 2024 15:45:18

#### EXT

Dear SF Planning Commission,

I am writing to express my support for the Potrero Yard Modernization Project. I've been a resident of San Francisco since 2015, and have lived in the Bay Area my entire life. This initiative promises to modernize a century-old bus facility, making it capable of accommodating 213 electric trolleybuses. This upgrade will not only enhance the efficiency of our transit system but also contribute to our environmental goals.

The project, spearheaded by the Potrero Neighborhood Collective, also proposes a significant focus on community needs. Alongside the transportation improvements, it includes plans for much-needed affordable housing. This dual approach aligns with our city's aspirations to provide better living conditions and transportation solutions.

Furthermore, the project will offer improved working conditions for Muni employees, reflecting our commitment to their well-being. It also addresses the need for safer pedestrian and cycling routes, in line with our Vision Zero goals.

In summary, the Potrero Yard Modernization Project represents a balanced blend of transit enhancement and community development. Your support for this initiative will be instrumental in its success and in bringing lasting benefits to our city.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. I look forward to your support and leadership in making this project a reality.

Best regards,

--

Armand D. Domalewski (925) 212-3562

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From: <u>Maria Susana Gomez</u>

To: Pantoja, Gabriela (CPC); commissions.secretary@sfgov.org; PotreroYard

Subject: Support our Muni Tranportation Yard Date: Support our Muni Tranportation Yard Friday, January 5, 2024 14:50:38

FXT

### 01/05/2024

Subject: Letter of Support: Potrero Yard Modernization Project

I am writing [on behalf of my son Miguel Carreno Muni Tranportation supporter since going to Elementary school to the present been activity going with his mom to the tours and The Heritage Of Muni in the Fall supporting the bus drivers ] to express support for the Potrero Yard Modernization Project. The reimagined Potrero Yard would address much-needed transportation infrastructure improvements that support long term resilient, safe, and efficient Muni operations of an all-electric bus fleet. Additionally, the century-old bus yard would be enhanced with homes for low- to moderate-income households – the nation's first known joint development of a bus maintenance facility with housing.

The project developer team, Potrero Neighborhood Collective (PNC), includes both a national transportation developer, Plenary Americas, and local veteran community organizations: Mission Economic Development Agency, Young Community Developers, and Tabernacle Community Development Corporation. PNC's commitment to innovation and community inclusion is evidenced by their proposed design and program including the following priorities:

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I am urging you to support the Potrero Yard Modernization Project as we need a new bus yard that serves to improve transit reliability while also providing public benefits, including

# new housing on City-owned land to address the City's dire need for affordable housing.

Thank you for your ongoing advocacy for public transit. I look forward to your continued leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

Miguel Carreno age 12

This message is from outside of the SFMTA email system. Please review the email carefully before responding, clicking links, or opening attachments.



## January 6th, 2023

Subject: Letter of Support: Potrero Yard Modernization Project

I am writing On behalf of the San Francisco Latino Parity Equity Coalition to express support for the Potrero Yard Modernization Project. The reimagined Potrero Yard would address much-needed transportation infrastructure improvements that support long-term resilient, safe, and efficient Muni operations of an all-electric bus fleet. Additionally, the century-old bus yard would be enhanced with homes for low- to moderate-income households – the nation's first known joint development of a bus maintenance facility with housing.

The project developer team, Potrero Neighborhood Collective (PNC), includes both a national transportation developer, Plenary Americas, and local veteran community organizations: Mission Economic Development Agency, Young Community Developers, and Tabernacle Community Development Corporation. PNC's commitment to innovation and community inclusion is evidenced by its proposed design and program including the following priorities:

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- Improving Safety for Bicyclists and Pedestrians by enhancing the City's existing 17<sup>th</sup> Street bikeway along the project site with proposed Class IV bike lanes from Bryant Street to Hampshire Street, including concrete barriers and wider lanes where possible, as well as upgrading sidewalks and crossings. These improvements are known to support bicyclist, pedestrian, and vehicular safety in line with the City's Vision Zero efforts.
- New Commercial Spaces that Activate the streets and include a public restroom, a community-requested public benefit.
- Approach to Local Economic Inclusion that Prioritizes Southeast Corridor Communities through Local Business Enterprises (LBE) participation and Local Hire. This is achieved through committed proactive outreach to LBEs and residents of Southeast San Francisco, oversight of future selected general contractors, and transparent reporting.
- Culturally relevant public art that celebrates the people, values, history and diverse culture of the Potrero Hill and Mission neighborhoods while also highlighting SFMTA's goal to provide reliable, safe, and affordable transportation for all.

I am urging you to support the Potrero Yard Modernization Project as we need a new bus yard that serves to improve transit reliability while also providing public benefits, including new housing on City-owned land to address the City's dire need for affordable housing.

Thank you for your ongoing advocacy for public transit. I look forward to your continued leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

Lucia Obregon Director San Francisco Parity and Equity Coalition



October 19, 2023

To: SFMTA Director Jeff Tumlin

SFMTA Board

SFMTA Potrero Yard Project Team

Re: Potrero Yard Project

On behalf of the 6,000 members of the Sierra Club San Francisco Group, we provide the following comments on the Potrero Yard Project:

- 1. We urge SFMTA to implement these essential improvements to the pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure in the project:
  - protected corners including corner islands at both intersections on 17th Street. This would be safer for pedestrians than bulb outs and would considerably improve safety for people on bicycles.
  - the elimination of mixing zones
  - concrete curb protected bike lanes, not mountable curbs
- 2. We applaud SFMTA for investing in the modernization of Potrero Yard. Increasing the frequency and reliability of transit is essential if we are to meet our climate goals for reducing carbon emissions.
- 3. One of the most important contributions San Francisco can make to reducing greenhouse gas emissions is to build more housing. A more dense city will reduce emissions from transportation. This infill development is also a critical strategy for preventing sprawl. We appreciate the significant number of affordable units this development will provide. We also thank the city for planning yet another development with zero resident car parking.

Thank you, Peter Belden

Conservation Chair San Francisco Group, Sierra Club November 19, 2024

San Francisco Board of Supervisors City Hall – Room 250 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Subject: Letter of Support: Potrero Yard Modernization Project

Dear Board of Supervisors,

SPUR strongly supports the Potrero Yard Modernization Project. Rebuilding Potrero Yard will not only transform a century-old bus yard into a modern public transit facility, but it will also provide critical affordable housing in line with community needs. San Francisco has an obligation to build 46,598 affordable homes by 2031. Enhancing the bus yard with affordable homes is an efficient and innovative use of public assets to address critical community challenges.

The project priorities were developed through a consultative community process led by the Potrero Neighborhood Collective (PNC), and includes a national transportation developer, Plenary Americas, and local veteran community organizations: Mission Economic Development Agency, Young Community Developers and Tabernacle Community Development Corporation.

SPUR applauds the team's work translating complex community priorities into an elegant project:

- Safe, Reliable and Improved Muni Service with a bus yard that can house up to 246 electric trolleybuses (a 64% increase to Potrero's existing capacity) and routes that currently serve five of San Francisco's nine Muni Service Equity neighborhoods.
- **Employee Wellness** with a seismically safe, modernized bus yard that provides natural light, outdoor spaces, training and recreation spaces for Muni employees.
- Maximizing Housing Units and Affordability by creating safe and stable homes for households that might otherwise be priced out of the city.
- Improving Safety for Bicyclists and Pedestrians by enhancing the City's existing 17<sup>th</sup> Street Bikeway along the project site with proposed Class IV bike lanes from Bryant Street to Hampshire Street, including concrete barriers, wider lanes, and upgraded sidewalks and crossings. These improvements support the city's ongoing work to keep pedestrians and bicyclists safe.
- Activated Commercial Spaces and a public restroom, as requested by the community.
- Culturally relevant public art that celebrates the people, values, history and diverse culture of the Potrero Hill and Mission neighborhoods while also highlighting SFMTA's goal to provide reliable, safe, and affordable transportation for all.
- Approach to Economic Inclusion that Prioritizes Small Business Participation

With over 520,000 daily Muni riders and tens of thousands of households in urgent need of affordable housing, SPUR knows San Francisco will benefit from innovative projects such as the Potrero Yard Modernization Project. Thank you for your ongoing advocacy for public transit and affordable housing. We look forward to your continued leadership on these issues.

Sincerely,

**Annie Fryman**Director of Special Projects
SPUR



November 18, 2024

Board President, Aaron Peskin Board of Supervisors City Hall 1 Dr Carlton B Goodlett Pl San Francisco, CA 94102

# **RE: Letter of Support: Potrero Yard Modernization Project**

Dear Board President Peskin,

I am writing to express Walk San Francisco's strong support for Potrero Yard Modernization Project. Walk San Francisco is the city's only pedestrian advocacy organization, advocating for life-saving changes across the city to protect the millions of people who walk in San Francisco every year and believes San Francisco can and should be the nation's most pedestrian-friendly city.

Potrero Yard Modernization is a smart transit-oriented development project that should factor into the city's goal of zero traffic-related deaths and injuries goals. Rebuilding Potrero Yard is a transformational project that modernizes a century-old bus yard and provides critical affordable housing. Enhancing the bus yard with homes for low- to moderate-income households optimizes agency-owned land and air rights to address the city's housing needs.

The project developer team includes both a national transportation developer and local veteran community organizations that have articulated their project priorities that will improve transit and keep people safer on our streets:

- <u>Safe, Reliable and Improved Muni Service</u> with a bus yard that can house up to 246 electric trolleybuses (a 64% increase to Potrero's existing capacity) and routes that currently serve five of San Francisco's nine Muni Service Equity neighborhoods.
- Improving Safety for Bicyclists and Pedestrians by enhancing the City's existing 17th Street Bikeway along the project site with proposed Class IV bike lanes from Bryant Street to Hampshire Street, including concrete barriers and wider lanes where possible, as well as upgrading sidewalks and crossings. These improvements are known to support bicyclist, pedestrian, and vehicular safety in line with the City's Vision Zero efforts.

Walk SF offers our strongest support for the Potrero Yard Modernization Project. With over 520,000 daily Muni riders, the city needs a new bus yard to improve transit reliability. Without a well-functioning MUNI, San Francisco will never reach Vision Zero.

Sincerely,

Jodie Medeiros

**Executive Director** 



San Francisco Bicycle Coalition 1720 Market Street San Francisco, CA 94102

T 415.431.BIKEF 415.431.2468

sfbike.org

November 19, 2024

San Francisco Board of Supervisors City Hall – Room 250 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

**Subject: Letter of Support: Potrero Yard Modernization Project** 

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I am writing on behalf of the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition and our thousands of members to express our strong support for the Potrero Yard Modernization Project. Rebuilding Potrero Yard is a transformational project that not only modernizes a century-old bus yard but also provides critical affordable housing. Enhancing the bus yard with homes for low- to moderate-income households optimizes agency-owned land and air rights to address the city's housing needs.

The project developer team, Potrero Neighborhood Collective (PNC), includes both a national transportation developer, Plenary Americas, and local veteran community organizations: Mission Economic Development Agency, Young Community Developers and Tabernacle Community Development Corporation. PNC's commitment to innovation and community inclusion is evidenced by their proposed design and program including the following priorities:

- Improving Safety for Bicyclists and Pedestrians by enhancing the City's existing 17<sup>th</sup>
  Street Bikeway along the project site with proposed Class IV bike lanes from Bryant Street to Hampshire Street, including concrete barriers and wider lanes where possible, as well as upgrading sidewalks and crossings. These improvements are known to support bicyclist, pedestrian and vehicular safety in line with the City's Vision Zero efforts.
- Safe, Reliable and Improved Muni Service with a bus yard that can house up to 246 electric trolleybuses (a 64% increase to Potrero's existing capacity) and routes that currently serve five of San Francisco's nine Muni Service Equity neighborhoods.
- **Employee Wellness** with a seismically safe, modernized bus yard that provides natural light, outdoor spaces, training and recreation spaces for Muni employees.
- Maximizing Housing Units and Affordability by creating safe and stable homes for households that might otherwise be priced out of the city including working families, city employees and people on a fixed income.
- New Commercial Spaces that Activate the streets and include a public restroom, a community requested public benefit.
- Approach to Economic Inclusion that Prioritizes Small Business Participation with a Small and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (SBE/DBE) participation.

• Culturally relevant public art that celebrates the people, values, history and diverse culture of the Potrero Hill and Mission neighborhoods while also highlighting SFMTA's goal to provide reliable, safe, and affordable transportation for all.

I urge you to support the Potrero Yard Modernization Project. With over 520,000 daily Muni riders, the city needs a new bus yard to improve transit reliability, while also continuing to connect the 17th Street corridor with All Ages and Abilities facilities. This project is two-fold in serving San Franciscans' mobility needs while also providing public benefits, including new housing on city-owned land to address the city's dire need for affordable housing.

Thank you for your ongoing advocacy for public transit. I look forward to your continued leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

Christopher White Executive Director

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