

REBUILD POTRERO

Summer 2009

HOPE SF REDEVELOPMENT OF POTRERO ANNEX AND TERRACE

UPCOMING MEETINGS

August/Sept 2009

- 2nd Design Open House
- Community Building Event
- Exact dates to be announced

Kick-off of Physical Planning for Rebuild Potrero: Initial Presentation of Circulation and Open Space Options

Having gathered information through the course of community focus group sessions held earlier in the year, BRIDGE Housing held the first Design Open House on May 2nd at Starr King Academy followed by a BBQ Cook-Off. Van Meter Williams Pollack, the master planning architect, presented three alternative circulation and open space plans followed by questions and answers from two different groups (first in the morning, then in an afternoon session). The all day Open House allowed people the opportunity to drop in at their leisure to review the alternative plans, ask questions, and mingle with neighbors. The three alternatives and their specific attributes are presented below.

Participants in the Open House filled out a questionnaire related to the three alternative plans responding to questions aimed at identifying the elements of each plan that people most liked or disliked. The results of the questionnaire (on the website at www.rebuildpotrero.com) showed a clear preference for the North-South Historic Grid Plan, particularly the idea of making Arkansas a through street from 23rd to 26th to achieve a greater degree of connectivity to the surrounding neighborhood and the City as a whole, as well as the continuation of the typical street pattern found on the rest of Potrero Hill.

The architects are continuing to refine circulation and open space plans to present at the next Design Open House to be held in late Summer/early Fall. The development team will be conducting additional studies over the Summer including geotechnical and environmental investigations and a survey of the property.

Following the Open House, nine residents of the Terrace and Annex served their homemade barbeque and side dishes to about 100 people including 4 judges. The judges were Ron Miguel, President of the San Francisco Planning Commission, Tony Kelly, President of the Potrero Hill Boosters Association, Hattie Breed, from the Family Resource Center, and Oscaryne Williams, Director of the Infant Toddler Center. The winner and runner-up received accolades from the judges and gifts. Most importantly, people had a good time eating delicious food and celebrating the culinary talents of friends and neighbors.

East/West Grid Plan:

- ◆ New blocks with street oriented in an east/west configuration
- ◆ Missouri becomes a through street from 22nd to 25th
- ◆ Primary community services at public plaza and stair at 25th & Connecticut
- ◆ Distributed open space, stepping from 23rd to 25th Street



Connecticut/Dakota Grid Plan:

- ◆ Maintains existing Connecticut and Dakota streets more or less in current configuration
- ◆ A stair at the intersection of 23rd & Missouri replaces the vehicular connection
- ◆ Connects to Arkansas via a stair at 23rd Street
- ◆ Concentrates community services at 23rd & Missouri



North/South Historic Grid Plan:

- ◆ Arkansas becomes a through street from 23rd to 26th
- ◆ Missouri becomes a through street from 22nd to 25th
- ◆ Primary open space and community services located at 25th & Connecticut



Common elements of all three plans include:

- More streets connecting to the surrounding neighborhood
- Texas Street going through from 22nd to 25th
- New stairs to the Potrero Hill Recreation Center
- Pocket parks on Texas Street to provide view corridors

Initial Workshop on Community Building

With the physical planning for Rebuild Potrero now well underway, on Thursday evening, May 28th, BRIDGE hosted a first meeting focused on **Community Building**. Thanks to Edward Hatter and the staff of the Neighborhood House for hosting a lively evening of presentations, brainstorming, and enthusiastic volunteering.

Courtesy of the Enterprise Foundation, BRIDGE and about 40 Potrero neighbors welcomed Joy Bryngelson, a Community Builder from Seattle who has worked for over 10 years on the rebuilding of New Holly, a mixed-income redevelopment of a formerly troubled public housing project. Joy's presentation provided a set of guidelines developed through her community's rebuilding experience, as well as some inspirational stories of successes and organizational structures that have proven helpful in their work.

Several community members shared thoughts and stories of successes they have experienced in building and maintaining community on the Hill – Maripousa Taufetee, with recent efforts to revitalize the Potrero Terrace Residents Association; Brenda and Eddie Kittrell, in their long-standing efforts on behalf of the Potrero Annex Resident Management Corporation (including the founding of the Family Resource Center); Dick Millett, about the well-established, broad range of activities of the Potrero Hill Boosters; and Mack Burton, about his personal efforts on behalf of the Terrace.

Fortified by Goal Hill pizza, participants formed four discussion groups to brainstorm a broad range of activities, events and programs they would like to see started, re-started, and continued to support the building and rebuilding of a sense of community among and between residents of the Terrace, the Annex, and the full Potrero Hill neighborhood. Each group selected a representative to present some highlights of their session. The full lists generated by the groups are posted on the website www.rebuildpotrero.com.

Joy and the BRIDGE team proposed that the next workshop provide an opportunity for participants interested in initiating an event or project to explore how to get started. Following are a few of the ideas generated by the participants.

- Community performances including poetry slams, talent shows, storytelling
- Block parties
- Gardening projects including tree planting
- Clean up events

A flyer will be distributed to announce the date of the next Community Building event. Information will also be posted on our website (www.rebuildpotrero.com), so please check the "events" page for meeting details.

New and Improved Rebuild Potrero Website

We are pleased to announce that we have launched a new and improved Rebuild Potrero website!

The re-designed website includes information on the Community Design and Community Building processes, links to materials from all of the meetings held to date, information about BRIDGE and HOPE SF, and answers to frequently asked questions.

Please check out the website. We hope that you will get involved and stay involved! Contact us at potrero@bridgehousing.com or call (415) 321-4011 to be added to our mailing list.

Notice to Residents of the Terrace and Annex

BRIDGE has contracted with various consultants to gather information about the Terrace and Annex site that will provide input into the early design work. You may receive notices prior to these consultants coming on site, and you may see them conducting their work over the next several weeks. If you have questions about this work, please contact Lisa Grady at 415-321-4011 or email us at potrero@bridgehousing.com



Small group discussion at 5/2 Open House and contestants serving BBQ



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