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Presidio



A Monthly Publication of the Presidio Trust

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Preserving the Presidio
 as a Sustainable
 National Park

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News Briefs

In-House Property Management

The Presidio Trust will handle property management for all non-residential space on the Presidio in-house rather than hire a contractor. Erin Magagna has been hired as Non-Residential Property Manager for the Presidio. Although a request for qualifications for non-residential property management services was previously available, property management by Trust staff will allow for smooth internal coordination and a high level of customer service. Current tenants can contact Ms. Magagna at 561-5300 beginning in March.

Architectural Design Services Sought

The Presidio Trust has issued a request for qualifications for architectural design for non-residential buildings. The selected firm will work on historic Main Post buildings that are scheduled for lease in 1999. Responses are due on March 26.

Cost Savings

Leaking sewer lines and manholes have been pressure grouted, achieving a savings of \$300,000 a year in wastewater treatment costs. The grouting prevents stormwater from infiltrating the sanitary sewer systems, reducing the amount of water requiring treatment.



PUBLIC WORKSHOP

TRUST RECEIVES INPUT ON LETTERMAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

More than 50 people turned out for a public workshop held by the Presidio Trust on January 27. Participants gave input about the scope of issues that should be covered in the upcoming supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the 60-acre Letterman Complex.

Members of the public gave suggestions in the following areas:

- Project scope
- Uses and program
- Views, open space and access
- Design compatibility
- Transportation
- Parking
- Water Supply
- Housing
- Community services
- Noise
- Air Quality
- Sustainability

Issues and concerns raised at the workshop will be addressed in the supplemental Environmental Impact Statement or the parallel tenant selection process as appropriate.

Scheduled for release in mid-March, the draft EIS will address environmental impacts that could be associated with six reuse alternatives on a 23-acre site within the 60-acre complex. Four of the alternatives will be based on conceptual plans submitted by

finalists selected to submit detailed proposals for the site.

The public review period will last for 60 days. Those already on the Trust mailing list will receive notification of the availability of the draft EIS.

Midway through the environmental review process, the Presidio Trust Board of Directors will sponsor three public forums where the public can view and comment on proposals put forward by the finalist teams for the site (see sidebar).

The Board will then select a finalist team, which will also be the preferred alternative for the EIS. The Presidio Trust will announce its selection through the Presidio Post, direct mailing and press notification.

In April, community members will be invited to comment on the Draft Environmental Impact

At a workshop on January 27, members of the public shared their ideas about topics to be included in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Letterman Complex.



Public Documents

Available Now
 Summary of Comments Received at Workshop

Mid-March
 Draft Environmental Impact Statement Available

Week of March 8
 Finalists' Proposals Available

Presentations by Finalists

March 24, 10 a.m. to noon
 Board of Directors Meeting
 Golden Gate Club

March 24 & 31, 6 to 9 p.m.
 Public Workshops
 Golden Gate Club

Public Comment on Draft Environmental Impact Statement

April 20, 7:30 p.m.
 Golden Gate National Recreation Area Advisory Commission
 Upper Fort Mason Center

April 21, 6 to 9 p.m.
 Presidio Trust Public Hearing
 Golden Gate Club

NEWS FROM AROUND THE PARK

HISTORIC UNIFORM ON DISPLAY

Now on display in the main lobby of the Trust building 34, on the Main Post, is the uniform worn by Captain Vincent K. Butler, Jr. during World War I. Capt. Butler, a native of San Francisco, received officers' training at Fort Winfield Scott in the Presidio and was commissioned as a lieutenant in the Coast Artillery Corps in 1917. Butler was sent to Europe where he transferred to the Army's new "Air Service" branch. He served with the 9th Bombardment Squadron of the Third U.S. Army, flying over French battlefields as an aerial observer. The uniform was graciously lent to the Trust by Vincent K. Butler III.



A REDWOOD ON THE PRESIDIO

A rare example of a Redwood species once thought to be extinct, a large needleless Dawn Redwood now grows at the Presidio Community Garden. Fossils of the tree were studied as early as 1828, but it wasn't until 1946 that a scientist discovered a connection to a living tree species in China. Seeds were sent to the United States, where one was planted at the Presidio. The tree is a rare and historic natural resource with a history of more than 50 million years.



Legend

- 1 The Main Post
- 2 Crissy Field
- 3 Fort Point and the Golden Gate Bridge
- 4 Fort Scott
- 5 Coastal Bluffs
- 6 Presidio Forest
- 7 Cavalry Stables
- 8 San Francisco National Military Cemetery
- 9 Letterman Complex
- 10 Housing Areas
- 11 Presidio Golf Course
- 12 Public Health Service Center
- 13 Lobos Creek Valley



PRESIDIO GATE UNDER RENOVATION

The Presidio Gate is currently being restored to its original structure, a process that will widen the gateway. Work started with the removal of lead-based paint in the fences, pillars and surrounding soils. Located in the southeast corner of the park, the Presidio Gate is the historic entrance to the Presidio from San Francisco. A wider gate will provide motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists safer access to the park.

Board Profile

John Berry brings his extensive background in public administration and government service to the Board of Directors, where he is the designee of the Secretary of the Interior, Bruce Babbitt. Mr. Berry is the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Policy, Management and Budget. In that capacity, he is the Chief Financial and Operating Officer for the Department of the Interior, responsible for management of 66,000 employees and an organizational budget that exceeds \$8 billion.

"The Presidio is emblematic of our nation's effort to provide national park experiences to people in urban areas," said Mr. Berry. "Situated at the entrance to one of America's great harbors, the Presidio offers an unparalleled opportunity for partnership between the Trust and the National Park Service to showcase our efforts to preserve and enhance our nation's treasured natural, scenic and historic resources."

Mr. Berry was previously Director of Government Relations and Senior Policy Advisor for the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. He was also Deputy Assistant Secretary for Enforcement at the Department of Treasury, Legislative Director and Associate Staff to the House Appropriations Committee for Rep. Steny Hoyer.

Mr. Berry graduated *Summa Cum Laude* with a B.A. from the University of Maryland and earned a master's degree in Public Administration from Syracuse University. He serves on the Board of Directors of Food and Friends, which delivers meals to homebound people with AIDS.

Board Members

John Berry	Mary Murphy
Edward Blakely	William Reilly
Donald Fisher	Toby Rosenblatt
Amy Meyer	

Public Access

Presidio Trust Library Hours
8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. weekdays

Monthly Planning Workshops
Located at the Golden Gate Club, 6 to 8 p.m.

March 10:	Transportation
April 14:	Main Post Cluster
May 12:	Natural Resources



General Counsel

TRUST STRUCTURE

"Just what is the Presidio Trust?" Since joining the Trust in April 1998, I have been asked this question many times.

The Presidio Trust is a wholly-owned government corporation. Its "articles of incorporation" are the provisions of the Presidio Trust Act (16 U.S.C. Section 460bb appendix) enacted in November 1996. The Presidio Trust's governing body is its seven member Board of Directors. Six of the members are appointed by the President, the seventh member is the Secretary of the Interior or his designee.

The official actions of the Presidio Trust Board of Directors are memorialized in resolutions. These resolutions and other useful information about the Presidio Trust, its operation and activities may now be found on the Presidio Trust's Web page at www.presidiotrust.gov via the Internet.

We hope that you will take the opportunity to visit our Web site frequently for regular updates about our efforts to preserve and enhance the Presidio.

Yours very truly,

Karen A. Cook

A CENTURY OF SERVICE

In 1798, the Department of the Treasury established the Marine Hospital Service to provide free medical care for the world's merchant marine seamen. After the discovery of gold in 1848, San Francisco became a bustling port bursting with new visitors. In response to a request from the California legislature, the U.S. Congress appropriated \$500,000 in 1850 for a hospital to treat injured merchant marine seamen. The Marine Hospital was completed in 1853 and located in San Francisco at the corner of Harrison and Spear streets in Rincon Point.

The earthquake that struck San Francisco in 1868 made the hospital unusable, and a search for a new site began. In 1874, an agreement was reached between the Secretary of the Treasury and the Army to designate land in the Presidio near Mountain Lake for a new hospital site. Three wood-frame ward buildings, small living quarters and a concrete boiler house were completed in 1875. In 1902, the Marine Hospital Service was renamed the Public Health and Marine Hospital Service and therefore the hospital became the Public Health Service Hospital.

In 1932 the wooden hospital buildings were replaced by a new, reinforced concrete, six-story hospital building, which was the largest structure on the post. Other additions included a recreation center, nurses quarters, officers' quarters and laboratories. In 1952, more structures were added to the hospital complex, including wings attached to the main building. The hospital was designated for closure in 1970 due to decreased usage. After strong protest, the decision was repealed. However, the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981 terminated medical benefits for merchant seamen, and the hospital closed on November 1 of that year, after more than 100 years of service. In 1994, the site was included within the boundaries of the park.



Photo courtesy of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Shown here in the 1930's, the Public Health Service Hospital replaced the Marine Hospital, which was built on the site in 1875.

SELECTING NEW TENANTS

PROCESS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE HOSPITAL COMPLEX SITE



Seventeen buildings are available for lease as part of the Public Health Service Hospital Complex.

THE PROCESS OF SELECTING TENANTS FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE HOSPITAL COMPLEX WILL SPAN 12 MONTHS, BEGINNING WITH ISSUANCE OF THE REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ) IN FEBRUARY AND ENDING WITH LEASE SIGNING. EVERY ASPECT OF THE PROCESS REQUIRES CAREFUL REVIEW AND COMPLEX DECISION MAKING.

Public outreach has begun with a series of neighborhood meetings and a public workshop attended by 60 people. Participants were asked to provide input about what tenants and uses would be appropriate for the site. The Trust also welcomes input by mail or e-mail.

Prospective tenants must respond to the Trust by April 16. In June, full proposals will be solicited from a short list of respondents, and a second round of public meetings

and workshops will be held to receive public input once proposals are received in late summer. The Board will select a finalist in October and lease execution is scheduled for early 2000. Deconstruction, rehabilitation and construction will also begin in 2000.

In a parallel process, the Trust will conduct environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act, which will include an evaluation of impacts and

development of alternatives for the project. Environmental review will also include public workshops and comment periods.

Potential uses for the site include assisted living and senior housing, educational facilities, a conference center, short-term lodging, multi-media or general office space and more. For more information about the selection or environmental processes, or to obtain a request for qualifications, call 561.5300.

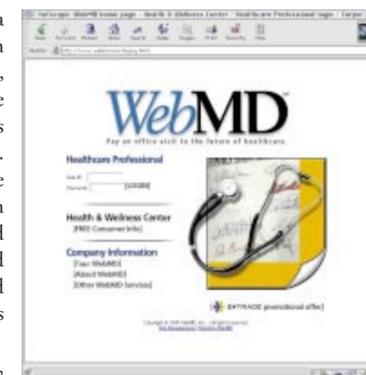


PRESIDIO TENANT ORGANIZATION SPOTLIGHT

WEBMD

Direct Medical Knowledge, a premium health information service provider for consumers, has been headquartered in the Thoreau Center in the Presidio's Letterman Complex since 1998. WebMD, a leading healthcare Internet portal headquartered in Atlanta, with offices in Portland and New York, recently acquired the company. The Presidio-based location now serves as WebMD's San Francisco office.

Launched October 5, 1998, WebMD, Inc. (www.webmd.com) provides a Web-based solution for the administrative, communications and information needs of healthcare



professionals and consumers. WebMD is a single point of access for insurance verification and referrals

via an electronic data interchange service, enhanced communications services, branded healthcare content, medical transcription services and other Web-based solutions.

For healthcare professionals, WebMD's Web site is designed to simplify healthcare practices by integrating multiple administrative, communications and research functions into a single, easy-to-use, Internet-based solution. WebMD's separate healthcare consumer Web site provides premium, branded content to assist consumers in making informed healthcare decisions.

March

Saturday, March 20, 10:30 a.m. to noon

Women of the Presidio

Stroll the historic Presidio and learn the stories of its women: Ohlone, Spanish, Mexican and American. Meet at the Visitor Center on Montgomery Street. Call 561.4323.



April

Wednesday, April 14, 6 to 8 p.m.

Main Post Cluster Planning Workshop

Community members are invited to attend the third in a series of monthly planning workshops sponsored by the Presidio Trust, which will focus on planning for Main Post Cluster Areas. Located at the Golden Gate Club. Call 561.5300.



Friday, April 16

Responses to the Public Health Service Hospital Complex Request for Qualification Due

Organizations interested in leasing all or part of the historic Public Health Service Hospital Complex must submit responses to the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) by 5 p.m. Copies of the RFQ are available by contacting the Trust at 561.5300.



Tuesday, April 20, 7:30 p.m.

Golden Gate National Recreation Area Advisory Commission Meeting

This meeting will provide an opportunity for public comment on the Letterman Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Building 201 in Upper Fort Mason. Call 561.4633.

Wednesday, April 21, 6 to 9 p.m.

Letterman Environmental Impact Statement Public Hearing

Community members are invited to attend this meeting to provide public comment on the Environmental Impact Statement regarding the Letterman Complex. Located at the Golden Gate Club. Call 561.5300.



Sunday, April 25, 11 a.m. to noon

Through the Forest

Beetles and birds, flowers and fun – you never know what you'll find on a nature trail in spring. This one-mile walk is designed for children ages 4 to 10. Starts at Inspiration Point near the Arguello Gate. Call 561.4323.

