Mission: Workshop #1

Tuesday | February 12, 2002
6:00 - 8:30 PM
@ ODC Theater - 3153 - 17th Street ( @ Shotwell St. )

Workshop Summary
As you may already know, the launching of this process began in February 2002 with the first round of workshops. For the 1st workshop, there was an overwhelming attendance of about 350 people, and presentations on background information by the Planning Department and some community groups. A number of comments from the community were gathered in note cards collected at the end of the night, and organized in a list by issue by the Planning Department's staff. Some of these comments are posted on the Mission Bulletin Board.

This important information delivered by the Planning Department is also available in the report - Profiles of Community Planning Areas - which covers issues such as land use, jobs, businesses, and population trends. A printed copy of the report can be purchased at the Planning Department, in the 5th floor reception area. All the information gathered so far will be updated on this web site, so keep checking back.

Community Input
- I am a tenant who has lived in San Francisco for the past six years. I have seen rents go through the roof because of too many restrictions on building and development of housing. Meanwhile, the rest of the Bay Area is losing open space because infill is not being used to provide housing, which results in more suburban sprawl. We need to get rid of zoning laws, rent control, and other government restrictions that prevent affordable housing.
- I lived in the Mission SF for 30 years I saw the changes and suffered the negatives of it. NO I did not like it at all now day because I refuse to leave I live in a very poor very very very poor "Hotel" because I have "no children" no family" with me I'm at off the list place in terms of housing. No I don't make enough of course for a decent rent.
- I lived in the mission for 30 years and now I have been forced to live exile in Daly City. As I look at the future are we going to have affordable housing for the people that made this neighborhood prosper?
- Affordable homes/housing is important but how can we create a better economic infrastructure so that residents can afford better housing and a "better way of life". The interim controls imposed by the Board of Supervisors only restrict businesses to move into the mission district; with apparel & automotive industries on the decline what industry can be introduced?
- I want to see affordable housing. I want guaranteed open space for fun and play not for dogs. (I have children). I want businesses in my community that cater to me and my family (shoes, clothes, theater-movie) not the ones that keep us out of community. I want housing now!!
- I have been a resident of the Mission for 38years. Have worked there for the last ten years I've lived in SRO the last five at the crown (as anybody knows, it aint for royalty!!) I've been evicted over disputes with landlords over sanitation, visitors, rent recipient, illegal entry by managers. SROs have been the only housing available to working poor disabled those on fired incomes and students. Trouble with SRO's is management doesn't care about anything but money, not a clean safe living space clean bathrooms not roaches, rots, decaying cracked plaster, leaky plumbing, filthy
hallways filled with garbage or security. Problem is planning lofts and office space that stays empty for years while ignoring affordable housing lo-cost space for small businesses is irresponsible and in excusable.

- We needed a lot more affordable housing in San Francisco. And we should require all developers who build houses in San Francisco be allocated 20% of the houses units they build for the low and middle-income families to buy or to rent.
- I’m a tenant. But after hearing the way this audience talks about property owners. I would be afraid to buy a house in the Mission. Equal rights include property rights. This is the only path to a better Mission.
- Decent Housing for the single people. I woke up with a cucaracha crawling on my face I hope this is not just one more show I need housing for single people where we can welcome our visiting family w/children in an acceptable comfortable manner.
- Need housing for single people. Housing where we can welcome our good clean decent family comfortable.
- More houses built. Lower rent, stop gang violence, and get drugs out of streets.
- People over Profit. I have lived in my four bedrooms flat for almost 20yrs. When I moved in, my rent was $600. We must impress upon our City Gov’t the need to put the people before Big Money. Affordable Housing instead of serving Big Business.
- Developers should be required to find development of open space loft developments-should pay fees for open space.
- I want space for a community garden for lots of them. I don’t have a yard (most of us don’t) but, I want a place to grow vegetables, and flowers and plants. It is important that we are able to have good fresh food. We also need more parks in the Mission. We need good affordable housing for the homeless people that live in the Mission.
- As most mission population are blue color workers their need is to have permanent jobs, permanent jobs come with big industrials. Unfortunately, our represented supervisors have missed this opportunity. People without jobs they end up to be homeless. Big office buildings are providing jobs for out of town workers. There must be some plans to encourage these big bosses to hire San Franciscans.
- Do we really want to encourage "PDR" jobs in the Eastern Neighborhoods? They are good paying. Yes, but they also lead to forms of pollution and environmental injustice. Since these "serve the entire city" why aren't some of them in sea cliff? Would anybody on the Planning Dept. like to trade jobs with one of the people who work at PDR jobs? Didn't think so. What we need is better & more education focused on people whose first language isn't English, people who work at "PDR" jobs traditionally. So they can have the choice to work at those jobs or others.
- Why is there so much industrial zoning in the Eastern Neighborhoods in the first place? It seems like it's because poor people live there. It's always like that in cities. And when poor people live somewhere, the land is cheap b/c they don't own it or have the tools to demand their rights to live and work on that land. Lets focus on different positive aspects of the development of the Mission other than "PDR" jobs.
- "More jobs" doesn’t necessarily mean jobs for low-income people! Example: Dot-Com Boom. We need jobs that are for low-income peoples, and that help develop the community and bring us together. Example: youth programs (which are necessary to keep kids off the street), community centers, etc. Also: more streets need bicycle lanes. We need more bicycle education for drivers. And, less drivers. Encourage use of public transportation. Also: Public transportation must be better. Muni is very inconsistent. And that’s no good when so many people depend on it (which is a good thing because cars are unnecessary in the city).
- Why always talk of "rights" without also talking of responsibilities? It seems to me they should go together.