



# Improving Public Places

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

SUMMER/FALL 2011

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- Mary Bates
- Bill Benavides
- Judy Bush
- Sean Garrone
- Rich Holt
- Shane Looper
- Karyl Matsumoto
- Rich O'Nyon
- Marie Patea
- Sharon Ranals
- Scott Wald
- Terry White
- David Venturini

## MEETING TIMES:

2nd Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m.

Corporation Yard  
550 North Canal St.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- |                              |              |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Meet & Greet                 | 9/12<br>7pm  |
| Coastal Cleanup              | 9/17<br>9am  |
| Floral, Bonsai, Quilt Show   | 10/7<br>10/8 |
| Centennial Way Seeding Event | TBD          |

On July 16, approximately 30 volunteers gathered to weed, clean, and prune the sloping, landscaped area of the Avalon Park ball field. The volunteers included members of the Improving Public Place (IPP) Committee, volunteer staff, and caring citizens.

The volunteers formed different groups and within two hours, transformed the area from a weed infested, overgrown, littered parcel into a manicured, clean area of plants and landscape. Additionally, the playground equipment was wiped clean and surrounding area cleared of litter.

By mid-day, the volunteers completed their project – a “sparkling” Avalon Park ball field ready and waiting for the next group of ballplayers and families.



Volunteers at July 16th Avalon Park Ball field Clean up

## A Million Thanks and More....To Our Many Volunteers

The Improving Public Places Committee was created with the idea of volunteers serving their community by improving public places, such as our parks and landscapes. A handful of individuals, with the help of City Staff, began sharing the vision of this committee – “...making creative landscape sites within South San Francisco” and encouraged YOU, our volunteers to join us in this vision.

At each of our meetings, after each of our projects and as we drive the streets of South San Francisco, the IPP Committee is reminded that the success of all WE do is because of YOU. Many thanks to each of you – You Do Make A Difference!

# Adoption Sites Available

The Committee welcomes you to adopt one of these available sites:

Available Site	Maintenance Responsibility
Jack Drago Park	Weekly visit—pay for maintenance of turf & plants
Brentwood Park Sign	Weekly visit— update plants every 60-90 days
Camaritas & Hickey	Project level—working with City staff to create a design and maintain
Centennial Way	General Maintenance with Valleycrest Landscape
Cypress & Pine Park	Weekly visit—trash removal, planting and maintenance
Dundee Park	Weekly visit—add flowering plants to planter area, maintain, trash removal
Elkwood Park	Weekly visit—add flowering plants to planter area, maintain, trash removal
Francisco Terrace Park	Weekly visit—add flowering plants, maintain, trash removal
Gardiner Park	Weekly visit—plant in flowerbeds quarterly, maintain, trash removal
Grand Avenue Breezeway	Weekly visit—maintain & add plants as needed in planters, trash removal
Irish Towne Greens	Weekly visit—pay for maintenance of turf & plants
Linden Avenue & Airport Boulevard	Bi-monthly visit—weed & trash abatement, plant flowers as desired
Linden Avenue & Hillside Boulevard	Weekly visit—maintain & add plants quarterly, trash removal
Sister Cities Park—Flags	Weekly visit—maintain & add plants, quarterly, trash removal
Orange Memorial Park—softball field sign area	Weekly visit—maintain & add plants in planter box, trash removal
Orange Memorial Park—Tennis Drive entrance	Weekly visit-maintain & add plants along entrance sign wall, trash removal
City Hall Letters	Bi-monthly—plant weed, & care for plants that make up the SSF letters

## The Improving Public Places Committee

### WHO WE ARE

We are a group of volunteers sharing a common vision of making creative landscape site within South San Francisco. The volunteers will pick up litter, plant flowers, and trees.

### THIS ISSUE'S CONTRIBUTING WRITERS:

Judy Bush  
Karyl Matsumoto  
Marie Patea  
Sharon Ranals  
Terry White

Citizens are invited to attend an IPP meeting, held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m.

City of South San Francisco  
Corporation Yard  
550 North Canal Street

Resident feedback on issues related to parks and recreation is encouraged by the Parks and Recreation Commission, which meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm.

City of South San Francisco  
Municipal Services Building  
Community Room  
33 Arroyo Drive

For more information, call  
650-829-3837



*“...you can make a difference and...share ideas and experiences...and most importantly have fun.”*

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# IPP Awards Program

Volunteering can now pay off in more ways than one!

The improving Public Places committee is introducing an incentive/awards program that will reward those volunteers who help out during planting events and even more so those who have adopted space to maintain. The program is simple and works this way. Sign in at a planted day event and sign out when you are done and we will record and track your hours. Later you can exchange those hours for gifts. If you have an adopted site you will be provided a form (like a time sheet) to record hours and turn into us. You accumulate your hours and then let us know what you would like to redeem them for. Listed below are the gifts available This is a small way for your City to say “Thanks”.

**For Planting Events**

3 hours = IPP Pin, 6 hours = Movie Ticket, 9 hours = IPP shirt, 12 hours = IPP hat, and 15 hours an IPP shovel and glove set

**Adopt a Spot Program**

Upon Adoption = IPP pin and shirt, after 6 months = Hat and movie ticket, after one year a shovel and glove set, in the second year you will receive 2 movie tickets every quarter, in the third year you will receive another hat and shirt and continue to receive 2 movie tickets each quarter. If you make it to a fourth year you will receive a very special gift certificate.

## Orange Memorial Park Planting Event 4-11-11



# Make a Difference and Volunteer!

You're familiar with the phrase "to make a difference", well that is exactly what the Improving Public Places (IPP) group and their volunteers are doing. Improving Public Places has a core committee, wonderful volunteers and a tremendous support staff. IPP was started to assist the City maintain its growth in green spaces while reducing blight. Our work helps to free up the time of our parks employees to do the work they were hired to do. IPP works with the City to help design, improve and clean up new or neglected green areas in the City whether they are in the parks or neighborhoods. Unfortunately, times have changed and funds and grant opportunities are severely restricted. In a memo to the City Council and City Manager, Sharon Ranals, Director of Parks and Recreation wrote, "With the current focus on controlling ongoing expenditures in the operating budget to reduce the City's projected structural deficit, expansion of amenities may not be endorsed, particularly since grant funding is not available for staffing or maintenance..." Let's go back to my opening comments, you can make a difference and in doing so you can make new acquaintances, share ideas and experiences, learn new techniques for your home and most importantly have fun. The degree of your commitment is up to you. You can join IPP on any of its quarterly projects or with a friend or neighbor adopt a small green spot. We would love to have you as part of our team. Please join us.

## Thank You

On behalf of the Improving Public Places Committee, we would like to thank you for your continued support and commitment to the group. Our volunteers are very important members and all share a common vision of creating color in South San Francisco with plants, flowers, and trees.



*"...you can make a difference and...share ideas and experiences...and most importantly have fun."*