

# West of Twin Peaks Central Council

P. O. Box 27112 • San Francisco, CA 94127

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February 3, 2005

John T. Kanaley, Executive Administrator Department of Public Health  
Laguna Honda Hospital & Rehabilitation Center  
375 Laguna Honda Boulevard  
San Francisco, CA 94116

Dear Mr. Kanaley,

On November 1999, San Franciscans approved Prop A, a \$299,000,000 bond to rehabilitate Laguna Honda Hospital (LHH) based on the expectation that LHH would continue to accommodate elderly and disabled patients as it has done for decades. On March 2004, the Department of Public Health changed the admission policy of LHH resulting in the displacement of elderly and disabled patients by younger ambulatory patients from San Francisco General Hospital.

The West of Twin Peaks Central Council, representing seventeen neighborhood organizations, view this policy change as a breach of the Department of Public Health's mission of the LHH replacement project as stated to voters in the attached *Summary of the Laguna Honda Hospital & Rehabilitation Center Replacement Proposal*. Below are excerpts from this document:

- ***What is Laguna Honda?*** *Laguna Honda Hospital and Rehabilitation Center provides skilled nursing care, hospice, rehabilitation, acute medical, senior nutrition and adult day health services. It has traditionally cared for 1200 elderly and disabled.*
- ***What if Laguna Honda is not rebuilt?*** *....If Laguna Honda is not rebuilt, 1100 frail elderly and disabled adults would continue to reside in a non-seismically safe building. San Francisco would have fewer skilled nursing beds per resident (1:395) than the overall State (1:317) even though it has a higher percentage of elderly persons.*

The West of Twin Peaks Central Council requests that LHH immediately establish the admission policies that were in place prior to March 2004 so that LHH can continue to be a crown jewel in caring for San Francisco's elderly and disabled patients. Please also consider that altering LHH's original proposal to the voters may undermine the confidence of voters in future bond measures.

Sincerely,

David Bisho, President  
Phone: 397-0767, FAX: 397-0835

Attachment

CC: Board of Supervisors, Mayor Gavin Newsom, Assemblyman Leland Yee, State Senator Jackie Speier, Representative Tom Lantos, Representative Nancy Pelosi, Senator Barbara Boxer, Senator Diane Feinstein, San Francisco Controller Edward Harrington

**MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS:** Balboa Terrace • Forest Hill • Forest Knolls • Greater West Portal  
Ingleside Terrace • Lakeshore Acres • Lakeside Property Owners • Merced Manor • Midtown Terrace  
Miraloma Park • Monterey Heights • Pinelake Park • St. Francis Homes • Sherwood Forest  
Twin Peaks Improvement • Westwood Highlands • Westwood Park

# West of Twin Peaks Central Council

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January 31, 2005

San Francisco Planning Commission  
President Sue Lee  
Vice-President Dwight S. Alexander  
Commissioner Michael J. Antonini  
Commissioner Shelley Bradford Bell  
Commissioner Kevin Hughes  
Commissioner William L. Lee  
Commissioner Christina Olague  
1660 Mission Street, Suite 500  
San Francisco, CA 94103-2414

**Subject: Continuation request for Planning Case No. 2004.0420MR, February 3, 2005, Item # 14a & 14b. Proposed amendment of General Plan to incorporate The San Francisco Bicycle Plan through text changes and amendments**

Commissioners:

The West of Twin Peaks Central Council (WTPCC) requests that the San Francisco Planning Commission continue to March 10, 2005 the above referenced agenda item that is scheduled for the Thursday February 3, 2005 San Francisco Planning Commission hearing.

We request the continuation to afford our member organizations time to study and respond to the proposed General Plan amendments. None of our members have received notice of the intention to incorporate the San Francisco Bike Plan into the City Charter.

Sincerely,

Dave Bisho President

CC: Acting Planning Director Dean Macris  
Case Planner Joshua Switzky  
Linda Avery, Commission Secretary

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