

President, Board of Supervisors
District 3



City and County of San Francisco

DAVID CHIU

邱信福 · 市參事主席

February 19, 2009

Hon. Rodney Fong, President
Hon. Stephanie Shakofsky, Vice President
Hon. Kimberly Brandon
Hon. Michael Hardeman
Hon. Ann Lazarus

Port of San Francisco
Pier 1, The Embarcadero
San Francisco, CA 94111

Dear Commissioners

As you know, many of my constituents along the City's northern waterfront have called for an update to the Port's Waterfront Plan. Given the current discourse regarding the development proposal at Seawall Lot 351, I believe that the time is right for this effort.

Port development in the northern waterfront is an extremely important issue to many of the residents of my district. In recent years, several Port-initiated development efforts have failed in the face of community opposition. Similar concerns are currently being raised regarding the proposed development at SWL 351 and the future development of seawall lots on the northern waterfront, and I share many of these concerns.

To address these concerns, I would strongly urge the Port Commission to work with the City's Planning Department to lead a focused public planning process for the Port's surface parking lots north of Market Street. This effort could recommend possible amendments to the Port's Waterfront Land Use Plan and Design and Access Element, and to the San Francisco Planning Code. I urge the Port Commission to condition any negotiations regarding SWL 351 upon the full participation of both the Port and the project proponent in the planning process, and require any development proposal to respond to development guidelines established through the process. This planning effort can be structured to not delay current efforts that have broad community support to rebuild Port piers across the street, such as the Exploratorium or Pier 27 International Cruise Terminal.

The Planning Department has undertaken several successful community-based planning efforts, including a recent effort involving Upper Market, to resolve land use conflicts. From my perspective, this is a successful model to address valid community concerns and the Port's financial condition.

I believe that a focused, six to eight month process managed by the Planning Department could foster community consensus for a SWL 351 project and design, as well as for future development along the northern waterfront. The community and Port have legitimate goals and concerns, and I hope that by bringing all stakeholders to the same table, we can build consensus for the future of our waterfront.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Chiu". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Supervisor David Chiu

CC: Monique Moyer, Executive Director, Port of San Francisco