

April 9, 1998

Dear fellow Harvey Milk Club Member:

We are relying on your help in defeating two misguided propositions:

Proposition A, the de Young rebuild bond measure, and **Proposition J**, the underground parking garage in the Park, were rejected by the Club's membership at the March vote, but fell just two votes shy of the requisite 60% vote for the "No" position to be endorsed.

In 1996, this Club stood against a less expensive bond and a *stealth garage*. Now the new bond is asking for \$16 million dollars more (a 23% increase in just two years) and the garage has been outed and **TRIPLED** in size. We therefore need you to come to the **Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy** at 19th and Collingwood in the Castro at 7 p.m., Thursday, April 16, to vote **NO**.

Proposition A, the renters' nightmare: This measure will cost (\$89.9 million), \$157 million with interest. These bond costs, and all other bonds for the past two years, are going to be passed through to renters. Previously, bonds were paid by property owners who received tax credits. Renters get no such protection; with rents skyrocketing throughout San Francisco, how many of us will have to move because we can't afford a \$200 a month rent increase?

The present building could be retrofitted, as was done with the Legion of Honor, for \$30-40 million. This money could come from the private sector.

Proposition J, the Privatization of Golden Gate Park: In the ballot book, this measure is called the "revitalization" of Golden Gate Park. How exactly does a 1000-car privately-controlled parking garage revitalize a park? It **WILL** rip up the Music Concourse and bring more auto traffic into and around the park. It **WILL** increase friction between park users and Golden Gate Park neighbors.

The de Young could have opted to provide a shuttle between UCSF's 2600-space parking garage, which is almost completely empty on weekends. A streetcar extension into the park would cost only \$12 to \$14 million. But neither of these options were considered. Why do the de Young trustees need their own free parking, to the detriment of all other park users? Is because most of them do not live in San Francisco?

If you wish further clarification of any of these issues, please call me at the number below:

Best wishes for a Golden Gate Park for ALL of us,

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