
CSFN NEWS

PLASTICS, ONE OF THE MOST SERIOUS THREATS TO MANKIND



ARE YOU RECYCLING RESPONSIBLY?

No, is the most likely answer. Today, many items with the recycle logo of three arrows are not being recycled, despite the ads claiming so by Recology. Sadly, this is fooling the public into thinking they are being responsible with their recycling. Since China no longer accepts our plastic, out of the 12,000 tons of plastic deposited in landfills in California today, only a fraction of it is recycled. This amount of plastic discarded in California is equivalent to 219 Olympic size swimming pools. Of that amount of debris, only 9% of the plastic is actually being recycled.

THE PROBLEMS OF PLASTIC

We all know of the Great Pacific and Atlantic Trash Patch floating in these bodies of water the size of Texas. Plastic is not just

Today, in California only 9% of our plastic is being recycled.

pervasive in our oceans but also has become more commonplace in our drinking water. Water departments are being asked to filter smaller and smaller pieces of plastic from the water we drink. It seems there is no end to how small plastic can become. Plastic has been noticed in the wombs of mothers outside and inside the placenta. Also, plastic can mimic body chemistry in its smallest form.

Without additives, plastic is incredibly stable and can last in the environment for centuries, possibly forever. EBA added to plastic can hasten the biodegradability of plastic. Unfortunately, EBA can now be found in high concentrations in the human body.

Bottled water can stand in its plastic containers for months before being ingested. During this length of time, bottled water can be tainted with EBA. Scientists are [studying the link](#) between EBA that may cause young girls to look much older than they are, since EBA can mimic estrogen. Also, BPA has been linked to male infertility. There is no telling how destructive EBA in combination with plastic will become as it degrades and penetrates our cell membranes and interacts with our cell chemistry.



Today, the hope of removing plastic from our environment is possible with every bit of plastic being embedded with a catalyst or enzyme. [Research](#) has shown that plastic treated this way can disappear in the ground and in our landfills in weeks!

Success in labeling plastic as truly recyclable has been made with the “Truth in Labeling” bill.

THE MOST ECONOMICAL PLASTIC
Making plastic is most economical by using virgin resin. Currently, recycling plastic is neither convenient nor economical. That’s why plastic will only be recycled if there is a government mandate. [AB 793](#) mandates a certain amount of recycled plastic must be used in all new plastic. This means all plastic bottles that can be redeemed for \$0.05 or \$0.10 must contain no less than:

- * 15% recycled plastic starting in January 1, 2022.
- * 25% recycled plastic starting in January 1, 2025.
- * 50% recycled plastic starting in January 1, 2030.

The plastic that is most recyclable today is HDPE or polyethylene terephthalate.. This plastic is often used in milk containers. One of the advantages of this plastic is that it is clear. This plastic is worth \$1 per pound or over \$2,000 per ton.

OPPONENTS OF RECYCLING

Opponents of plastic recycling that lobby hard to slow down the process of recycling are the Plastics Industry Association, the American Institute for Packaging and the Environment and the Flexible Packaging Association. However, regular business that represent farming and agriculture, pet food and household/personal care products also complained of new restrictions on plastics.

SUCCESS IS COMING TO RECYCLING PLASTIC

Success in labeling plastic — as truly recyclable — has been made with the “[Truth in Labeling](#)” bill passed last year. This law forbids manufacturers from calling their products recyclable or using the three arrow recycling logo unless they meet CalRecycle’s [criteria](#).

ENTER THE BOTTLEBANK PROGRAM !

Even better news about recycling comes from a new pilot program called the *Bottlebank*. This new program allows the elderly and those challenged by transportation issues to deposit their uncrushed CA Redemption Value (CRV) bottles into two blue plastic bags with bar codes that are registered to Venmo, PayPal or regular bank account of the reimbursing participant. Seventy two hours after the blue bag is recycled, the cash deposit for this transaction is complete. *Bottlebank* trucks pick up these blue bags all over San Francisco in new and rotating locations providing easier access for anyone interested in recycling. This [program](#) is felt to be a democratization of recycling since it allows the poor, senior citizens and those without reliable transportation to take part in recycling.

NEW LEGISLATION

California lawmakers have already passed bills reducing plastic straws and shopping bag legislation. Now, Legislator Laura Friedman wants to limit the amount of plastic used in wrapping done by on-line shopping. Since the pandemic, online shopping has created 29% more waste in landfills which can end up in our oceans. Let’s hope this legislation, [AB 2026](#) passes.

GERMANY'S SUCCESS

Germany has a very successful “Green Dot” recycling campaign. Of the 30 million tons of waste Germany produces annually, at least one ton is diverted from the waste stream by using thinner glass, less metal and the reduction of unnecessary paper packaging. Retailers purchase a Green Dot. The more unnecessary recyclable material present in products sold, the more expensive their Green Dot becomes. Germany's success is much more complicated; I suggest you read the *All About Recycling in Germany* [article](#) to learn more.

COULD THIS BE THE ANSWER TO OUR PLASTIC PROBLEM?

There is new hope for having plastic break down without EBA. New [research](#) shows that providing a catalyst or enzyme imbedded in every piece of plastic can allow it to become vulnerable to bacteria in the landfill or in the ground. As part of an engaged public, we must ask for these additives to become commonplace in plastic so that the environment does not suffer unnecessarily.

Article by Glenn Rogers, Vice President of CSFN

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK MARCH 15, 2022

THE BEST IS YET TO BE!

I ended last month with that idea. How are we going to do better than we have before, you might ask.

1. We have co-sponsored an interview with the new City Attorney.
2. We have submitted a city wide redistricting plan, our first ever!
3. We are working with a state wide ballot initiative campaign.
4. We are considering a resolution on Cortese site problems in Bayview, Hunter's Point and Treasure island.
5. We are working with the Ethics Commission on a ballot initiative to clean up corruption in city government.
6. We are planning to hold candidate forums before three more elections this year!
7. We will be vetting six more ballot measures this year to decide which to support!
8. We will continue to fight for open highways, through streets, transparency in city departments and checks and balances in our government.
9. We will get back to normal face to face meetings by the end of this year, culminating in a semi-centennial celebration to knock your socks off!10. Oh, and by the way, as we do this we will be carrying out the vision of those first founders of CSFN in 1972!

And now I want to hear from you:

1. What experiences have you had over the years with CSFN that you like to share with us?
 2. What would you like to see happen at CSFN in this semi-centennial year, or in the future?
- Please write to me at charlesnhead@hotmail.com. I am waiting to hear from you!



Charles Head, President of CSF



TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR CSFN GA MEETING MARCH 15, 2022

- I. Sign in and answer questions posed
- II. Call to order and approve agenda
- III. Program: The Roots of City Hall Corruption. Speaker: Dr. Derek Kerr, Tim Redmond, Joe Eskenazi and Susan Dyer Reynolds investigative journalist.
- IV. Approval of Minutes for Feb. 15 GA
- V. Officers Reports
 - A. President
 - B. Vice President
 - C. Recording Secretary
 - D. Corresponding Secretary
 - E. Treasurer
- VI. Committee Reports
 - A. Ex Comm
 - B. Land Use and Transportation
 - C. Government and Elections
 - D. Open Space
 - E. Rules
 - F. Legislative Liaison
- VII. Unfinished Business:
 - A. Resolution from PMAC
 - B. Other
- VIII. New Business
 - A. Ballot initiative
 - B. Other
- IX. The Conversation Continues
- X. Adjournment

Charles Head, CSFN President



CSFN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, February 23, 2021 / 4:30 PM / By ZOOM

Glenn Rogers, Charles Head, Greg Scott, Mari Eliza, Al Fontes, Clair Zvanski, George Wooding and Mary Harris. Absent Cindy Beckman and Richard Frisbie.

- 4:30 pm I **Call to Order**/Quorum present, host Glenn Rogers
Agenda approved.
- 4:31 pm II **Officers Reports**
 - A. President, heard City meetings regarding Ethics “Pay to Play” and Ballot Initiatives.
 - B. Vice President, Discussed Hunters Point Reso.
 - C. Recording Secretary, absent
 - D. Corresponding Secretary, no report
 - E. Treasurer: Lee Ann Prifti is a new member.
- 4:40 pm III **Committee Reports**
 - A. Executive Committee
 - B. Land Use and Transportation, 70% of City against slow streets. Post Carolyn Kenady’s letter.
 - C. Government and Elections, 3 members board of education lost big, Raul Torres won, Campos asks for donations, SFMTA is likely to request an Obligation Bond for \$400 million, April 22, 2022 Campos & Haney election occurs.
 - D. Bylaws, will work on it.
 - E. Open Space, 3 D printers should make housing more affordable. Parkmerced could be purchased by City for Homeless and others.
- 5:00 pm IV **New Business**
 - A. Next Program, about Corruption.
 - B. Next article, high-rise failings in San Francisco.
- 5:15 pm V **Unfinished Business**
 - A. The Conversation Continues...
 - 1. CSFN Party this year.
 - B. Recruitment, send your dues to be able to vote.
- 5:30 pm VI **Adjourn** **Glenn Rogers, CSFN Vice President**

PARKMERCED ACTION COALITION

RESOLUTION TO CLEAN UP ALL RADIOACTIVE AND TOXIC WASTE AT THE HUNTERS POINT SHIPYARD

Whereas, the *second largest* Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-designated Superfund site in the nation is located in Bayview-Hunters Point, San Francisco;

Whereas, there are 40,000 EPA-designated Superfund sites in the United States and 1,321 of those – including the one in Bayview-Hunters Point, San Francisco – are on the National Priorities List, affecting the health and well-being of the U.S. population;

Whereas the electorate of the City and County of San Francisco made clear in a November 2000 San Francisco ballot by an overwhelming vote of 86% that they approved Proposition P, which stated that the Navy is responsible for cleaning up the shipyard to the highest standard, clean enough for residential use;

Whereas, the U.S. Navy contracted and paid \$261 million and then did not supervise the clean up work by Tetra Tech, Inc., between 2006 and 2012 and Tetra Tech was then found to have falsified soil samples and in fact NOT cleaned up the toxic contamination in the Bayview/Hunters Point;

Whereas, the U.S. Navy has done nothing to remedy the situation since then. Meanwhile the State and local officials have done nothing to force the cleanup and instead prioritize transfer of the toxic land from the U.S. Navy to the City and County of San Francisco to create for-profit redevelopment of Bayview-Hunters Point over the life-and-death health effects of exposure to the contaminated lands on the residents – disproportionately affecting low-income and people of color;

Whereas, Bayview Hunters Point has a high rate of breast cancer, lung cancer and brain cancer, among others, and the second highest rate in California of respiratory ailments requiring hospitalization, with the majority of children having asthma. Residents suffer other ailments such as skin rashes. Children have nosebleeds and neurological problems and there are high rates of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) attributable to the high levels of toxicity;

Whereas, biomonitoring screenings have detected multiple radioactive elements and heavy metals at toxic levels in the residents of Bayview/Hunters Point corresponding exactly to soil and landfill elements documented by the Navy to be present at the Hunters Point Shipyard and used by the U.S. Naval Radiological Defense Laboratory that was also located at the site;

Whereas, the working class communities near the toxic shipyard want and require redress for what is now generations of cancers and respiratory illnesses and to have the area cleaned up

Whereas, The Committee to Bridge the Gap, a non-profit nuclear policy organization focusing on issues of nuclear safety, waste disposal, proliferation and disarmament, wrote an October 2018 report entitled “Hunters Point Naval Shipyard: The Nuclear Arms Race Comes Home,” which concluded: “A wide array of radionuclides, likely numbering a hundred or more, were involved in extremely large quantities. No portion of Hunters Point can be deemed to be non-impacted, since the radioactivity was susceptible to widespread migration throughout the site. Effective cleanup will be a massive undertaking, requiring a level of diligence far greater than that which has been demonstrated by the Navy to date, whose poor environmental and safety practices led to widespread contamination in the first place.” The toxic pollution affects all of San Francisco and the Bay Area, with migration of the contamination out of the hardest hit community of Bayview-Hunters Point;

Whereas, despite the government’s own scientific projections that climate change will cause sea levels to rise up to 7 1/2 feet by the end of the century, our city, county, state and federal government agencies project leaving radioactive and toxic contamination buried at sea level at the Hunters Point Shipyard Superfund Site and at many other sites around the Bay in vulnerable communities;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the U.S. Navy undertake comprehensive cleanup of Bayview-Hunters Point and that the Mayor of San Francisco and the City and County of San Francisco Board of Supervisors and the California Governor and environmental agencies of the State of California demand the remediation and take all necessary steps within their power to force the remediation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that new and comprehensive testing of the entire original Hunters Point Shipyard site, including parcels transferred to the City and County of San Francisco and those developed or being developed by Lennar Corporation/ Five Point in the Bayview-Hunters Point community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that core sampling, not just scanning, be conducted, with independent community oversight.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that comprehensive cleanup – not capping – of all radioactive and toxic waste at the Superfund site and adjacent areas to prevent further pollution of our community and the San Francisco Bay where rising sea levels threaten flooding, which will spread the contamination throughout the City and County and beyond.

Glenn Rogers, RLA
Landscape Architect
License 3223



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

NAME OF MEMBER ORGANIZATION _____

Mailing Address _____ SF 941 _____ Email _____

CURRENT OFFICERS:

President	Address, City, ZIP	Email	Phone
Secretary	Address, City, ZIP	Email	Phone
Other Officer	Address, City, ZIP	Email	Phone

CSFN DELEGATE:

Name	Address, City, ZIP	Email	Phone
If your organization has alternate CSFN delegate(s):			
Name	Address, City, ZIP	Email	Phone
Name	Address (with ZIP)	Email	Phone

DUES & DONATIONS

CSFN annual membership dues are \$45.
Organizations wishing to include an additional donation to CSFN are encouraged to do so.

**Make check payable to "CSFN" and mail to:
Greg Scott, CSFN Treasurer, 637 Noe Street, San Francisco, CA 94114**

CSFN Membership Certification: CSFN Bylaws (Article II, Section A-G) require each voting member organization to certify that it has a membership of 35 or more in order to maintain voting privileges. Organizations not having the required membership may retain membership as associate members without voting privileges at CSFN's sole discretion.

I confirm that we are renewing as a:

- Member Organization with 35 or more members
- Associate (non-voting) Organization - number of current members: _____

_____ Certifying Signature	_____ Print name/Position	_____ Date
-------------------------------	------------------------------	---------------