

THE NEIGHBORHOOD

NORTHEAST EDITION

TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 1998

ie
yn
ected

YOU agree or
e with the
-sponsored
ducing General
enefits to those
ke part in a
rogram, the
flanked opposi-
ght and, along



GRIFFIN

unassailability
tually ensures
a. The idea of
G.A. benefits
considered
rdan adminis-
men-Depart-
Services
ger Brian
a bulwark
fort. Just like
nch anticom-
chard Nixon to
a, Willie
m grinding
duce welfare
a bootstrap
ere other
tion candidates
ith vociferous

VE BEEN MAYOR
n Franciscans
is of Gordon
s first elected
rican supervi-
to remember
ome fancy
y, the city could
the nation's
American
George
assassinated, it
ard of Supervi-
from its ranks
or. Sensing the
u as mayor,
g for Dianne
ised on then-
la Hill Hutch's
l. To avoid the
age of lobbying,
s, Hutch was
n the Fairmont
kend before
ote. Dianne's
together. And
ey say, is

WAS KING:
Francisco
n J. P. Kahn
distinction. He
e television in
y in the late
Manhattan, the

North Beach Garage falls to wrecking ball

Judge permits
demolition,
but debate
continues

By Emily Soares
NEIGHBORHOOD REPORTER

Neighbors who have been fighting to save the old North Beach Garage on Vallejo Street got a rude awakening Saturday, April 18, when demolition of the 77-year-old building began unexpectedly.

Residents in a group called STOP (Snarled Traffic Obstructs Progress), filed suit against the city last year claiming that a proposed five-story garage, slated to be built on the site of the old building, was too big and expensive, would increase gridlock, and would block out light and air to buildings behind it. Neighbors charged that the project was approved in violation of the city's planning code.

Earlier this month, when a demolition order had been posted on the old building, STOP filed for an injunction to preserve the structure until July, when a Superior Court judge was scheduled to hear its case.

At the hearing for the injunction, Judge Raymond Williamson granted a 10-day delay in order to allow both sides to submit additional material, and he issued orders that the garage not be touched in the interim.

On April 15, Williamson denied the injunction, allowing demolition of the old building,

but he prohibited the city from beginning construction of the new garage until the residents' case is heard. He then moved the hearing date up to June 18.

In order to place an injunction of the construction, the judge ruled that the neighbors were required to put up an \$80,000 bond or appeal his decision by today.

Some say job was rushed

Arthur Chang, a member of STOP, said that residents' attorneys were not notified of the decision until April 16, a day after the city received the decision, allowing residents inadequate time to appeal the decision before the wrecking began.

By the morning of April 18, the city had assembled wrecking equipment at the site, and by the following night, the building's roof, a side wall, and rear wall had been demolished.

The speed of work was not lost on community members, who saw the weekend demolition job as a sneaky way to circumvent opposition.

"Everyone says we've hurried on this when we've been waiting 18 months," says Parking Authority director John Barber, as he toured the site. The city prepped the building for demolition during the 10-day court delay, he said.

Neighbors who saw demolition debris falling on cars parked behind the garage and believed that conditions at the site were unsafe enough to warrant intervention notified the state Occupational

See GARAGE, page 28A

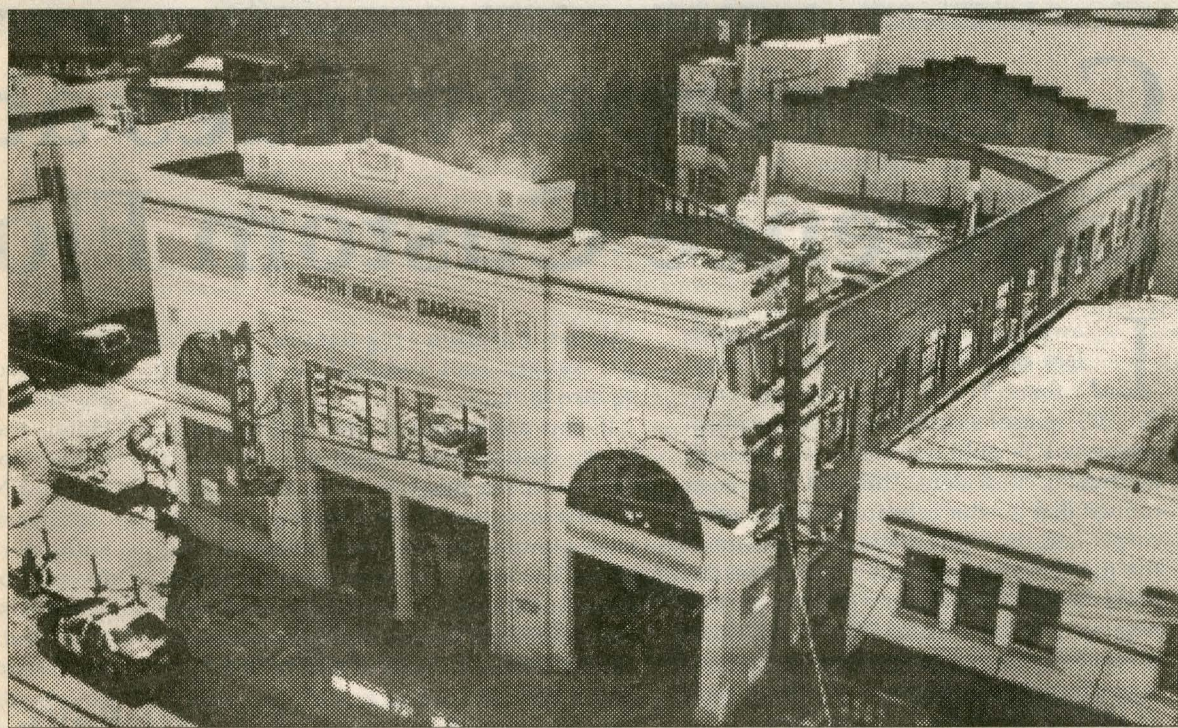


PHOTO: RORY McNAMARA

GOING, GOING, GONE: The North Beach Garage, minus a side wall and a roof as of Monday, will be demolished completely, but a judge has put a hold on construction of its replacement.

Andre's

40 Years In San Francisco

731-2792 • 2401 IRVING ST.



Mike & Harriet Salerno
"We Have Our Own Repair
& Delivery Department"

Mother's Day Sale

\$50-\$100-\$150-\$200

TRADE-IN ALLOWANCE

FOR YOUR OLD TV ON SELECTED 27", 32" & 36" MODELS

REBATES AVAILABLE ON SELECTED MODELS

zenith 36" \$200 TRADE IN Z36H96R	RCA 36" \$100 TRADE IN F36676	zenith 32" \$150 TRADE IN Z32H96R	zenith 32" \$50 REBATE Z32X31D
RCA 32" \$50 TRADE IN F32683	SONY 32" \$100 TRADE IN KV32S26	zenith 27" \$100 TRADE IN Z27H96R	zenith 27" \$50 REBATE Z27H32D
zenith 27" \$648 Z27X74W • Traditional Console • Cable/Remote/Stereo	RCA 27" \$598 G27304DT • Traditional Console • Cable/Remote/Stereo	RCA 27" \$598 G27303HP • Swivel Console • Stereo/Cable/Remote	zenith 25" \$548 Z25A64W • Traditional Console • Cable/Remote/Stereo

Redone hotel is a hit with residents

Rose Hotel revived after history of decay

By Kristen Reyes
NEIGHBORHOOD REPORTER

To paraphrase Shakespeare, a rose by any other name is still as sweet. But a flower would hardly be considered characteristic of the Rose Hotel, on Sixth Street in the South of Market area, before its recent renovation.

"It was the filthiest and most awful place you could imagine," said Mandy Nelson, resource developer for Mercy Housing, Inc. "I was so heartbroken that anyone had to live in those conditions." But despite its shabby and unsanitary condition, low-income residents stayed in the hotel for lack of a better place to go, Nelson said.

That was until Mercy Housing, a Catholic nonprofit charity,

Though most relocated residents chose to remain in their new homes, three of the former residents chose to move back to the Rose Hotel after its renovation. Thomas Rodriguez, 60, who lived at the Rose Hotel for 15 years, said even though the conditions were less than desirable before the renovation, he considered the Rose Hotel to be "home."

"When we offered him the opportunity to move back in he took it," Nelson said. "He was thrilled to see the changes, and he is incredibly happy" in his new apartment at the Rose Hotel.

A bevy of services

Aside from affording residents a safe and clean place to lay their heads, the building has 24-hour

GARAGE: Debate continues as walls come down

continued from page 25

Health and Safety Administration on Saturday.

Cal-OSHA investigators did determine that the contractors, Covey Trucking of San Mateo, may be in violation of a permit required to demolish buildings over 35-feet high, "but nothing has been issued yet," said Dean Fryer, Cal-OSHA spokesperson, who is waiting on documentation from the

contractors.

Residents say they were also surprised to see Bill Maher, who was dismissed from his post as director of Department of Parking and Traffic last month, on hand at the demolition site to orchestrate the work.

Traffic problems for police

While OSHA makes its determinations about the safety of the work site, the San Francisco Po-

lice Department's Central Station, located directly across the street from the site, is experiencing parking problems caused by the loss of the old garage.

Sergeant Tom O'Connell told the *Independent* that the station used to park its police vehicles in the old North Beach Garage, but it must now use the city-owned garage next to the station, where the building's top floor has been reserved for the

police vehicles.

But, he says, it's difficult for officers to get the cars out in a hurry and there aren't enough spaces. Further, he added, unmarked police cars will be easier to identify when they roll out of a police-only parking level.

Despite STOP's frustration and the inconveniences caused to the police, not everyone in the neighborhood is unhappy about seeing the old garage come

down.

One resident watching the work said she was glad the new garage was finally on its way. "It's about time," she said, expressing her desire to see more parking in the area.

But other community members argue that, while parking may be needed, the city overstepped its own laws by approving the structure without, they say, adequate environmental review, and they still hope to win their case.

For members of the police de-

partment who will be working across from the site while it undergoes transformation — a projected year-long process should the city prevail in the suit — the new garage is not expected to bring relief.

O'Connell says that when the project is finished, a police officer may be needed to direct traffic going in and out of the two garages.

"You've got a five-story garage across from a five-story garage," he observed. "It's going to be a giant parking lot."

Laurel Super

3445 CALIFORNIA STREET

HOURS: Monday - Saturday • 8am - 8pm
Sunday & Holidays • 8:30am - 7pm

OPEN EASTER SUNDAY •

8:30 - 6:30



Through our script system,
we support our local schools.

752-0179

SPECIALS EFFECTIVE WEDNESDAY - MONDAY • DELIVERY SERVICE AVAILABLE



Yoplait
Yogurt

Custard or
Original
6 oz. tub

.49

Lindt of
Switzerland
Chocolate Bar

Assorted Varieties, 3 oz.

.99

Crystal
Fresh
Drinking
Water



1.5 liter

.59



Progresso
Soup

Tomato Basil,
Tomato w/Veg.,
Hearty Black Bean,
Hearty Veg. & Pasta,
Minestrone, Split Pea,
Lentil, Tomato,
Vegetables, 19 oz. can

.99

Caprice

Pure Wesson Oil

Vegetable or Canola, 100% Natural, 24 oz.

1.49

~ LAUREL SUPER FULL SERVICE MEAT DEPARTMENT ~

We Carry USDA Choice Harris Ranch Beef, Local Fresh Fish & Poultry • 387-4212 •

Round Bone Lamb
Chops

lb.

3.99

Shoulder Lamb Chops

lb.

3.79

Boneless Lamb Stew

lb.

3.99

Lamb Shanks

lb.

2.99

Cross Rib Roast

lb.

1.99

Fresh Red Snapper
or Rock Cod

lb.

3.99

Fresh Swordfish

lb.

6.99

Chicken Legs

California Fresh, lb.

1.39

~ LAUREL SUPER FULL SERVICE DELICATESSEN ~



Corned Beef
Extra Lean,
No MSG, lb.

6.99

Roasted Loin of Pork
Rotisserie Cooked Daily, lb.

6.99

Macaroni and Beef
Served Hot Great For
Lunch or Dinner, lb.

4.99

Fresh Macaroni Salad

lb.

2.49

Carrot Raisin Salad

lb.

2.49

Chinese Chicken Salad

Made Fresh Daily! lb.

4.69

~ LAUREL SUPER FRESH PRODUCE ~

Spring
Mix

2.99



Pineapples

.59 lb.

