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**\*\*\* PRESS RELEASE \*\*\***

RESIDENTS EXPRESS CONCERN AND OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED VEHICLE TRIAGE CENTER AT CANDLESTICK STATE PARK

**San Francisco, CA** — Residents of San Francisco’s Bayview Candlestick Point neighborhood are fed-up with the explosion of dilapidated RV’s and vehicle residents on the Hunters Point Expressway perimeter of Candlestick State Park. “We have witnessed a growth rate of 176% of vehicle residents over the last two years. We now have over 300 RVs in Bayview. The City has done nothing to improve the current situation and now wants to increase the problem with a proposed Vehicle Triag in the State Park. The same vehicles, which are inhumane conditions at best. This is on top of the problem of untreated sewage, sex trafficking, open drug dealing and illegal dumping. Enough is enough!” said Timothy Alan Simon, attorney and resident who is an opponent to a proposed to the measure proposed by a Vehicle Triage Committee that has been meeting for 19 months. The Bayview Hill Neighborhood Association, residents of Candlestick Point, and True Hope Square Community group will convene a press conference on Wednesday, September 22nd, 1:00 pm, Gilman Park, 903 Gilman Avenue, SF, CA, to express opposition and discuss community concerns regarding the proposed Vehicle Triage Center (VTC) at the Boat Launch Site at Candlestick State Park. These proposed plans will provide 150 spaces for unhoused individuals living in RVs and cars and will be an extension of this horrific inhumane encampment and further impact an already vulnerable and overburdened community. The current conditions are a State of California and City and County of San Francisco failure to this community and the answer is not a wider space in the State Park to increase and concentrate these inhumane conditions. Speakers will include Timothy Alan Simon, attorney and resident, Shirley Moore, Vice President of the Bayview Hill Neighborhood Association, and concerned residents.

“While we are deeply sympathetic to the experience of those who are unhoused and who have had to seek shelter in their vehicles, locating these spaces in the Bayview Hunters Point and Candlestick neighborhoods further burdens our historically under resourced and neglected Southeast community. San Francisco offers significant services and resources for those who find themselves in similar situations, and we encourage residents to seek assistance through the City”, said Shirley Moore, a 40-year resident

Residents of the City’s Southeast communities face the disproportionate challenges of unhealthy air quality and environmental degradation, increased levels of poverty, and a lack of quality outdoor spaces such as paths and parks. This location threatens to further marginalize residents that already find themselves subject to tenuous economic conditions. "Fairness and humanity dictate that we recognize that this is a city and regional problem not exclusively found in the Bayview. A proper solution is an equitable citywide distribution of triage center parking spaces, not a concentration in an already overpopulated area of San Francisco”, said Timothy Alan Simon.

A recent survey of 140 residents cited concerns over illegal dumping and neglect, the influx of RV’s, deteriorating roads, facility and lack of Park access. Candlestick State Park is a recreation area cherished and frequented by many community members, visitors, and residents. Community members wish to continue to use the site as intended, with further commitments made by the City to invest in restoring it to be safe, clean, and inviting for pedestrians, cyclist, fishing and aquatic sports. “Considering our experiences as a historically underserved, under resourced and neglected neighborhood, the Southeast Community is deserving of this investment and consideration”, said Becky Graff, Secretary of the Bayview Hill Neighborhood Association, a local community non-profit dedicated to quality-of-life improvements and service in the Bayview.

**About The Bayview Hill Neighborhood Association**

The Bayview Hill Neighborhood Association was established in 1984 to combat neighborhood deterioration by being an informed group of residents that protect the well-being of our community through our united voice and actions. We are all committed to making our neighborhood a safe, clean, and well-maintained place to live and raise our children. Our all-volunteer non-profit Association meets monthly to discuss neighborhood concerns and provide an opportunity for city and other government agents, developers and other interested parties to meet directly with residents. For more information, visit https://www.bayviewhillsf.org/