



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 7, 2023

San Franciscans Showcase Creative Protests to Safeguard Beloved Waterfront

San Francisco, CA – San Francisco residents are taking a bold stand to protect the beauty and serenity of the city's last remaining open waterfront as they rally against a proposed new yacht harbor in front of the Marina Green. On October 7, 2023, their artistic expressions and on-the-water protests captured the attention of the community and beyond.

Marina resident Erin Roach drew inspiration from the renowned artist Christo to create a powerful and thought-provoking statement. Roach and several members of the grassroots organization "Keep The Waterfront Open," fashioned a massive representational art piece using clear plastic painted with towering "masts". Held up in front of the Marina Green Promenade, the piece vividly depicted the potential consequences of a yacht harbor obstructing the currently unobstructed views of Alcatraz, the Marin Headlands, and the Golden Gate Bridge.



Marina resident Erin Roach creatively depicts the loss of view

In another display of creative defiance, boat owner Joe Bravo of Forest Hills took matters to the water. He commissioned a graffiti artist to paint his sailboat with the striking messages, "No Harbor Built at Marina Green" on one side and "Tell London No Gift To The Rich" on the other. Bravo proudly sailed his boat as an on-the-water protest during the recent Blue Angels' airshow. While navigating back and forth within the would-be harbor location, he used a

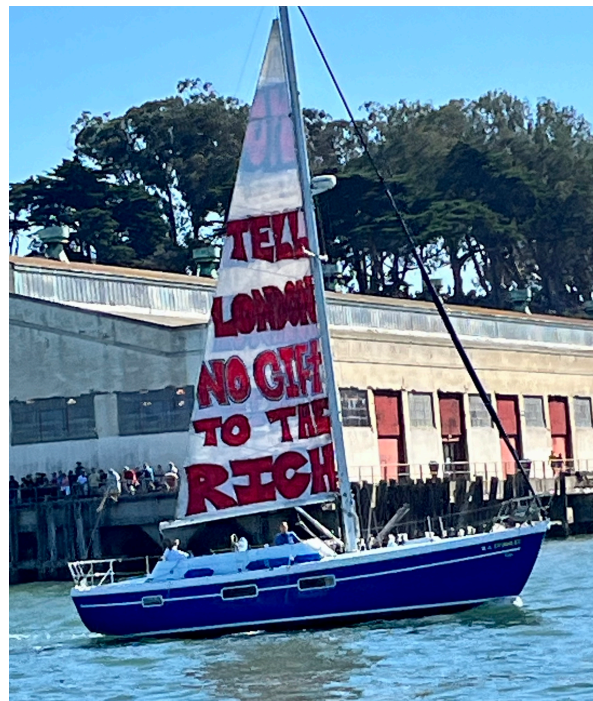
megaphone to guide onlookers to a YouTube video, where residents passionately express concerns regarding the proposed harbor, directing viewers to contact Mayor London Breed.



Their demonstrations, whether on land or water, precede a pivotal decision scheduled for October 19th when the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department Commissioners are set to cast their votes on the matter. In spite of mounting public feedback opposing the new harbor and numerous pleas for the Department to prioritize the repair and cleanup of existing harbors, the Department, under the leadership of Phil Ginsberg, appears determined to forge ahead with the unpopular proposal.



Joe Bravo's sailboat messages front



...and back

It is crucial to note that the funds allocated for this proposed harbor originate from a two-decade legal battle with PG&E over toxic remediation in the Marina. The community emphasizes the importance of their voices being recognized and respected throughout the decision-making process.

Keep The Waterfront Open will be hosting a public community meeting on October 11th from 6-8pm at Sports Basement Presidio. The presentation will feature guest speakers Supervisors Aron Peskin and Ahsha Safai, who have adopted the cause since District 2 Supervisor Catherine Stefani was required to recuse based on a potential conflict of interest. Stefani owns a boat berthed at the Marina and stands to gain financially should a new harbor be constructed.

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