	City and County of San Francisco <b>DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH</b>	Gavin Newsom, Mayor Mitchell H. Katz, M.D., Director of Health
	<b>OCCUPATIONAL &amp; ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH</b>	Rajiv Bhatia, M.D., M.P.H Director of EHS & OSH

Hello ENCHIA Council,

Copied below is a summary of the January Council meeting, including some of the main points that emerged from the discussion of the rezoning proposal. At the last meeting, we also passed out all the revised policy briefs with a summary of the changes which were made to them based on the council's evaluation.

To begin the prioritization process, of the nearly 30 policy briefs, we are asking all Council members to complete the attached Policy Ranking Scale and return it to us by Monday, February 6th. The goal for this exercise is to get a preliminary sense of whether members support/oppose the range of policies that we have collectively reviewed and revised before the next Council meeting. ENCHIA staff will also contact you to get the revised policy briefs to you and help answer any questions. The revised briefs, and all of January's meeting material are also available online at [http://www.sfdph.org/phes/enchia\\_mtngs/2006\\_01\\_18.shtml](http://www.sfdph.org/phes/enchia_mtngs/2006_01_18.shtml)

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 Additionally, the Planning Department asked us to share the following information:

**Eastern SoMa Community Workshop**  
**Wednesday, February 8, 2006, 6-8 pm**  
**SoMa Recreation Center 270 6th Street (@Folsom)**

Between 2000 and 2004 the Planning Department worked with community members throughout the Eastern Neighborhoods to develop a series of zoning options for the SoMa (South of Market Area). Building from this earlier work, the Department now has a proposal for zoning as well as concepts for an area plan. Please join us again in refining this important work by attending a series of workshops to be held over the next several months. The first workshop will review the effort to date, provide an overview of the zoning proposal and area plan concepts, and describe next steps. A second workshop will be held 6-8 weeks later. Please forward this to anyone you think would be interested in these workshops or in being on the list for upcoming Eastern SoMa planning events.

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 January 18, 2006 ENCHIA Council Meeting Summary

January 25, 2006

Dear Community Council Members:

Thank you for your ongoing participation in the ENCHIA Community Council. This letter provides a brief summary of our fifteenth meeting held on January 18, 2006.

The primary activity of the January meeting was to critique the Eastern Neighborhoods rezoning efforts relative to the **Healthy City Vision** that was created by the Council at the beginning of the process. For this evaluation process, we first heard an update and presentation from the planning department on the current status of the rezoning and planning efforts for these neighborhoods. Planning staff reviewed maps of the proposed rezoning and a description of new use designations. They also provided the Council with a list of some of the other issues and proposals that might be considered through the creation of neighborhood plans. The Council then collectively considered the rezoning in comparison to the elements of the **Healthy City Vision** that emerged out of the Council's first meetings.

While Council members did identify some specific ideas for planning for health needs, the Council also realized that it was not possible to meaningfully critique the planning efforts in its current state of development. Council members felt that while planning efforts provided for a new division of lands among residential and commercial uses, the plans included little planning for the other elements of healthy and successful neighborhoods. It was acknowledged that the absence of these elements was in large part due to the limited nature of the planning effort thus far and could be remedied in the upcoming planning processes.

Council members made the following additional general observations:

- Rezoning should follow, not precede community visioning and planning processes. While the rezoning addresses an important city interest in balancing land for housing and commercial uses, the proposed rezoning does not reflect comprehensive vision for neighborhood planning that includes public space, parks, schools, transit, and community services.
- The maps of the proposed land use designations do not suggest the existence or boundaries of coherent "neighborhoods."
- The interim zoning proposals appear to do more than "hold the line" of the current land use designation pending final zoning controls; interim controls that reflect a significant change in the expected land use designations might be expected to fuel speculation and involuntary business displacement.
- Open space planning is a priority for healthy neighborhoods; while pedestrian realm improvements are valuable, it is imperative that the city not count 'living sidewalks' towards public open space requirements; land use designations for public use should identify their functions.

The ENCHIA subgroup working on the community health assessment tool provided a report back to the Council. The subgroup is proposing that ENCHIA create a general assessment tool to evaluate the effects of development on health. The tool would reflect the objectives of the **Healthy City Vision** and for each objective would include data and statistics useful for evaluation that objective, key indicators of progress, and goals or standards for the city. The tool could be applied to the Eastern Neighborhoods Plans when they are complete as well as to other plans citywide. ENCHIA staff is drafting a preliminary sketch of the tool and the subgroup will meet again on January 31, 2006 and anticipates sharing a draft of the tool at the next Council meeting.

Towards the end of the meeting, staff provided a document of the amended policy statements and revised policy briefs to Council members and requested members to provide staff with a preliminary assessment of their relative support or opposition to the policies. We will use this preliminary assessment to help the Council identify which policies appear most relevant and valuable for ENCHIA support and advocacy. As a reminder, we are yet to agree on final "ground-rules" for prioritization and for developing recommendations; however, we do anticipate recommending several of these policies to City Planning and other city departments in our final report.

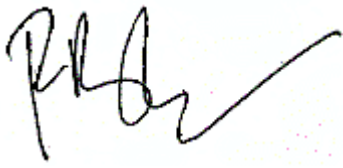
Finally, we heard about a proposed health code amendment recently introduced to the Board by Supervisor Mirkarimi to strengthen housing quality requirements in muliti-family apartments and residential hotels. The Council expressed unequivocal support for the amendments and also suggested additional housing quality requirements necessary for health. Staff will draft a preliminary position letter for Council review at the next meeting.

Thank you for your time and commitment to this process.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments at 415.252.3982.

Sincerely,

1390 Market Street, Suite 210 San Francisco, CA 94102  
Phone 252-3800, Fax 252-3875

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Bhatia', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Rajiv Bhatia, MD, MPH.  
Director of Environmental Health