

# Ocean Beach Furor



Hikers picked their way through construction rubble at Ocean Beach near Fleishacker Zoo

## Great Highway Danger Cited

# City Assailed on Huge Dumping Project

By Dale Champion

A long stretch of San Francisco's Ocean Beach has vanished under ugly piles of "illegally dumped" construction rubble.

The dumping, along two-thirds of a mile of beach near Fleishacker Zoo, was begun with the blessings of the city Recreation and Parks Department. It has gone on for months without proper authorization from the North Central Coast Commission.

Advised by The Chronicle of the situation, Michael L. Fischer, executive director of the commission, ordered the fill work halted yesterday until the coastal watchdog body considers granting a permit for it.

### CLAIM

Michael Wornum, the Marin county supervisor who is chairman of the commission, contradicted a claim that verbal approval had been granted for the beach dumping.

"On the contrary," he declared, "we told the city as long ago as February or March to stop it. We were considering litigation to call a halt to it."

The fill project is intended to keep a section of Great Highway between Sloat Boulevard and Fort Funston from sliding into the ocean.

Parks Director Emmett O'Donnell said the money-strapped Recreation and Parks Department has wanted for years to stabilize the ocean side of the Great Highway section. It has been threatened with erosion ever since it was completed in 1964 in conjunction with the re-alignment of Skyline Drive.

### ROAD

"We've been continually shoring up the road," O'Donnell said, "but we have never got sufficient material to do the job so that we could walk away and say it was finished."

He said the material came as "a Godsend."

"We never considered that we were trying to eliminate the beach," O'Donnell said. "We only considered that we were securing the road and getting the job finally finished."

Dumping, however, has made the beach itself impassable to strollers at high tide.

Large chunks of broken concrete, blocks of road asphalt and tangled masses of rusty cable and reinforcing steel spill down the beach front and even into the water. The debris is 20 feet high.

"It's a crying shame. We used to have a beach here,

but we don't anymore," said James B. Robbins, a 53-year-old sightseeing guide who has been a regular witness to the filling.

Most of the fill has come, with city approval, from an underpass project at Geary boulevard and Masonic avenue. But Robbins has detected other unauthorized deliveries by private contractors, a problem acknowledged by

city officials.

"Wouldn't it have been a lot better to build a proper sea wall like the one up at Playland and let people have their beach?" Robbins asked.

"If a tanker spills a barrel of oil in the bay, there's a big noise. But nothing happens if they pollute our beach."

Fischer, of the Coast Com-

mission ordered O'Donnell, superintendent of parks, to stop the beach filling until the commission holds a public hearing June 28 on the city's application for a permit to do the work and decide whether to authorize it.

Fischer said the city is subject to a possible \$10,000 fine and additional \$500 for each day of what he called "illegal dumping."

## Stricter Rules for Model Cities

The Board of Supervisors moved yesterday to tighten conflict-of-interest and fiscal controls over the city's model cities program.

In separate, unanimous actions the supervisors prohibited members of the model cities commissions from doing business with the programs for a year after leaving office and directed the controller to set up separate accounting for model cities funds.

"It was evident from our public hearings that these were the two biggest problem areas," said Supervisor John Molinari, sponsor of the changes. "The federal government is very concerned and so are we."

The new conflict-of-interest provision will bring the model cities rules in line with rules governing other city agencies, he explained.

During the hearings he conducted, Molinari learned that two commissioners of the Bayview-Hunters Point Model Neighborhood Agency resigned just a month before they signed a contract with the agency.

In addition to acting on the conflict and fiscal problems, the supervisors also asked the model cities agency, the mayor's office and the Department of Housing and Urban Development to provide them with copies of pertinent information on the program.

Molinari and the other supervisors were still smarting because they read about problems plaguing the model cities programs long before they received any official notice.

In a related action, Molinari asked the supervisors to hold hearings on a regulation which would give them the power to confirm appointments made by the mayor to the Bayview-Hunters Point and Mission model cities programs.

## Big Underground A-Test Tomorrow

Las Vegas

A nuclear device 3490 feet beneath the surface will be touched off tomorrow morning at the Nevada test site, the Atomic Energy Commission announced yesterday.

The force of the blast may sway highrise buildings in Las Vegas, 110 miles away. One building in Beatty, 32 miles away, will be evacuated, as will all mines within 50 miles.

Beatty is the nearest popu-

lated area to the blast site. The AEC said the weapons-related test, code named "Almendo," will range from 200,000 tons to one megaton in size. A megaton is equivalent to one million tons of TNT.

Six tests of this yield range have been conducted at the Nevada test site since underground testing began in 1963, and three other tests have exceeded the one-megaton yield. *United Press*

## Board OKs New Use of Hotel Tax

Changes in the way San Francisco spends its hotel tax revenue—a key to settling a long-standing lawsuit against the Yerba Buena Center project—were approved yesterday by the Board of Supervisors.

By unanimous vote, the supervisors adjusted the disposition of the 6-per-cent tax on hotel bills so that it will provide nearly \$500,000 per year for the construction of low-cost housing in the south-of-Market area.

"This will implement the agreement we approved in April," said Supervisor Robert Mendelsohn. "It will lead to the dismissal of the major lawsuit which has blocked the Yerba Buena project."

### FUNDS

The re-allocation of hotel funds will provide an estimated \$496,500 per year to finance low-cost housing for persons forced to relocate to make room for the \$385 million convention center project, in addition to the \$160,000 per year already set aside for rent supplements.

Mendelsohn said that the new half-million dollars will come from unappropriated reserves in the hotel tax fund.

The plan will leave the tax

at its present rate and will not disturb the funds already earmarked for cultural activities, promotion of the city, improvement of Candlestick Park and construction of the sports arena, garage and public areas in the Yerba Buena Center.

Before the vote, the supervisors were informed that city officials have been ready to go to bid on the first phase of center construction for the past four months.

### SUIT

The agreement to build low-cost housing will settle the major lawsuit pending against the project, said Chief Administrative Officer Thomas J. Mellon, but it still faces two additional suits and the threat of a referendum on the November ballot.

"Those people who sign the referendum to put it on the ballot should understand that they are adding \$1 million to the rising cost of the Yerba Buena project because of the rising cost of construction," said Supervisor Dianne Feinstein.

"If it's delayed another six or seven months, pending the final outcome of the election, the cost will go up another \$6 million or \$7 million," she added.

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## Alioto's Pitch For Youth Jobs

Mayor Joseph L. Alioto called on business, labor, churches and the state yesterday to join the city in providing a summer job program for youth.

"The Nixon Administration has copped out" on the federal program that employed thousands of young men and women last year, said the Mayor.

Unless other segments of society move in to take up the slack, he noted, the programs that employed more than 9200 youths in San Francisco last summer will only employ some 1200 this year.

Alioto said that the Administration has ended the Neighborhood Youth Corps program under which 4300 young men and women were employed in the city last summer.

"They say we can use emergency employment funds for the summer jobs this year, but we've decided not to fire the parents in order to hire the children," he said.

Instead, Alioto called for the state to sharply increase its participation in the summer job program and for

business and labor to provide jobs or donate the funds needed to create jobs.

Last year, when the total program employed 9227 youths, the state agencies in San Francisco provided "exactly 27 jobs," said Alioto.

The state should provide at least 400 jobs in the city, said Alioto, if it follows the federal practice in past years of providing one summer job for every 40 full-time federal jobs in San Francisco.

At the most, the state could pick up the entire federal summer job program by using some of the \$234 million in revenue sharing funds it received "without lifting a finger," he added.

Alioto was joined by youth leaders as he also called on local businesses, unions and churches to provide jobs or the funds to provide community-related jobs. They said each \$500 would create one summer job.

The mayor announced that the first \$500 donation was made by the International Ladies Garment Workers Union and he accepted a second check for \$500 from the People's Temple at 1859 Geary boulevard.