

San Francisco Chronicle

THE VOICE OF THE WEST

SUNDAY, APRIL 15, 2007

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Editor — Your articles on how to avert the loss of families from San Francisco articulated very nicely why basic amenities such as usable neighborhood parks, ample street trees and landscaping, reliable public transit and clean and safe civic spaces are keys to a quality of life that keep people with children in the city despite overwhelming pressures to flee.

As someone who is raising a child here, I am convinced that adequately maintaining our most basic public resources should be the priority of every one of our elected officials. However, we do not need to look to other cities to learn how to do this; best practices are found right here, in every neighborhood of the city.

They are successfully carried out by people such as Gillian Gillette, whom you profiled, partnering with city staff and organizations like ours to create appealing urban spaces that rival any you will find in Paris. The charming results of these efforts can convince those looking for reasons to stay that we are better off here than almost anywhere else in the world.

DEE DEE WORKMAN

Executive Director
San Francisco Beautiful