

Japantown SafeCity Program 3rd Phase Completed

Phase 3 of the Japantown SafeCity Program has been completed. Bringing the current total of number of camera views into our network to 104 and covering approximately 80% of the Japantown Community Benefit District.

AVS's team completed the work just in time for the 52nd Annual Cherry Blossom Festival with the cameras deployed throughout Japan Center Mall East and West, as well as the Kinokuniya building.

As we move toward the final phase, we are also looking at possibly expanding our network to include areas outside the CBD, always keeping in mind the costs involved as well as working with SFPD to identify key areas.

Appreciation to all the participating properties and their representatives for their support and collaboration throughout the installation.

If you'd like more information about the Japantown SafeCity Camera Program, please email us at info@jtowncbd.org.



UPCOMING

June 29 - Soy & Tofu Festival, St. Mary Event Center

June 30 - Japan Day Festival, Peace Plaza

July 6 & 7 - Fillmore Jazz Festival

July 13 & 14 - Summer Festival Bazaar, Konkō Church SF

July 27 - SF Uke Fest, Hotel Kabuki

July 20 - SF Anime Festival & Cosplay, Peace Plaza

Aug. 3 & 4 - 46th Annual Nihonmachi Street Fair

Aug. 29 - Origami-Palooza & The Great Paper Airplane

JULY 10 WEDNESDAY
Japantown Community Benefit District, Inc. Board Meeting

JACL SF Headquarters
1765 Sutter Street, S.F., CA
(Board meetings are held every 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m.)

Stay Connected

Visit our website and join our mailing list to stay connected.

www.jtowncbd.org



Connecting with our Community

JCBD staff have been busy connecting with the many merchants and property owners in Japantown. It's a great opportunity for us to hear of your concerns and keep you updated on programs and services we oversee. We hope to see you next!



"I'm grateful for all the people working for the integrity of Japanese culture in Japantown. Thank you for your kindness and for helping me feel heard."

– Gregory Wood, Forest Books
(Buchanan Mall)



"We appreciate the proactive approach JCBD is taking by engaging people truly concerned about the various aspects of Japantown and what makes it a vital area. Also some of the serious concerns about the security, cleanliness and crime are slowly being addressed and need to cooperate closer with business owners, residents and retail shops because the awareness and communication on these aspects is the route to improvement."

– Stephen Jordan, Sakura Sakura
(Japan Center Mall West)

Peek at the New Street Lamp Banners

Soon Japantown streets will be lined with colorful street lamp banners created by local community artists. Here's a sample of what is in store!



From top:
Brandt Fuse,
Brenden Oshima,
Tomoko Maruyama



We'd like to hear from you!

Call us at **415-265-5207**
or email us at
info@jtowncbd.org

Community Meeting with Recology and SF Public Works



The very first Community Meeting with Recology and SF Public Works was held on April 25th at the Union Bank Community Room with 15 attendees. Traci Lawrence of SF Public Works, Marcus Mirt and Noelle Duong of Recology addressed many questions and concerns from the business community.



Kimberly Kiefer of DPW and Kayleigh Lloyd of Fix-It Team did a site visit on May 14 to address specific concerns in Japantown.



Keeping Japantown Clean is a Community Effort!

Japantown's Community Ambassadors provide a vital service every day from 7:30am - 4:00pm. Our Ambassadors create a healthy environment for visitors as well as those who live and work in Japantown by maintaining clean and safe streets. They also welcome visitors and locals, as well as check in on businesses to maintain a thriving neighborhood.

But we all need to do our part to make sure Japantown thrives. **Here are simple things that we all can do:**

1. Sweep in front of your business every morning.
2. If you see trash on the sidewalk pick it up and throw it away.
3. Get in the habit of using the 311 app. Report illegal dumping, City trash can over flow, homeless encampment, graffiti, etc.
4. If your Recology carts have been rummaged through, consider getting locks on the carts.




Ambassador Michael made one Japantown visitor very happy by finding her cell phone!



Encampments in front of your business should be reported to 311. You can also call SFPD Dispatch at 415-553-0123.



Green Chang owner of **Kippu Japanese Restaurant** and his staff makes it a point to sweep the store front every morning!



Download the **311 mobile app** on your smart phone to report and document problems.

Cleaning Highlights for April & May



- 3834 Cigarette Butt Picked Up
- 74 Business Contact
- 2 Request for SFPD, SFPD & EMS
- 3780 Trash Bags Collected
- 46 Auto Glass Clean Up
- 108 LBS of Trash Collected
- 37 Graffiti & Sticker Removed
- 41 Weed Abatement
- 41 Needle Clean Up
- 26 311 Requests
- 184 Hospitality Assistance
- 10 Hotline Answered

To request service, call or text the JapantownSF Clean Team Hotline: **(415) 680-7171**
 Please note that the ambassadors cannot arrest anyone



Community Ambassadors Carl Newt and Michael Mehari



Ambassadors wearing their new JapantownSF gear!



Operations Manager Paris Carthen

Congratulations to Soko Hardware for achieving Legacy Business Status!

On May 13th, Japantown's first hardware store, Soko Hardware was approved for the San Francisco Legacy Business Registry at the Small Business Commission hearing, and officially became the sixth Japantown business to achieve Legacy Business status.

The approval followed a moving comment by Philip Ashizawa, Soko Hardware's owner and third generation of the Ashizawa family. Philip spoke of the resilience of his family's business, from 1925 to the present, with its survival of the Japanese American Incarceration and the San Francisco 1950s and 1960s Redevelopment. His comment earned praise from several Commissioners, including Commissioner Stephen Adams: *"I almost came to tears up here when you talked about your parents and grandparents... You and your family are what America is all about. You stayed, you fought and you won. Congratulations."*

The approval of Soko Hardware as a Legacy Business was accomplished through the combined efforts of Nikki Yoshikawa, former Japantown Task Force Community Relations Director and Philip Ashizawa. As a recognized cultural asset of San Francisco, Soko Hardware is now eligible for exclusive grants, funds, marketing, promotions, and other small business assistance through the city.



New Businesses in the Kinokuniya Mall!



Ichi Sando serving Japanese style sandwich and tea.



Day2Nite Glam a boutique specializing in beauty and skin care.

Business & property owners the new **No Trespassing (MPC25)** sign has now changed from bi-annual to an annual sign. Please keep the current yellow No Trespassing signs up until June. Community Ambassadors will begin distributing the signs in the coming weeks. Japan Center Malls and Kinokuniya tenants will receive their signs from property managers.

NOTE: A copy of this sign **must be filed at SFPD** in order for them to honor the No Trespassing at your business/property.

