

FREEDOM WEST

NEWSLETTER - JULY 2022



Upcoming Freedom West Alumni Events

National Night Out

August 2nd

Freedom West Family Day

September 24th

Holiday Grocery Giveaway

December 10th

Community Profile Richard O'Neal Sr. & Jr.

When did you move to Freedom West?

Our family arrived at Freedom West in 1977.

What are some of your earliest memories of living there?

A vibrant village community at the edge of an iconic neighborhood (Fillmoe). It seemed to always be sunny, and rainy days didn't last long. It was complete and included families, fathers, misses, matinees and lots of children. Most people seemed to know one another from before moving to Freedom West. The energy was magical. When you spoke to people of the greater community and said you lived in Freedom West, they would silently envy you and ask how can I get on the waiting list.

Do you have a favorite memory of Freedom West?

Some of the best memories for us has to be the developing a standard of the manhood training and culture. Being a father-and-son household, many Freedom West young men would come to our house. My father and a collective of Fillmoe pioneers would groom us in the science of being a gentleman, business and finance, the importance of education, especially history, health & fitness and self-defense. Our house as many others was a safe place to gather before and after big city events (like the Super Bowl, etc.)

Freedom West's Management Contact Info: 415-929-1011

Anthony Maldonado

– Community Manager

Monica Garcia

– Assistant Community Manager

Krystyna Gurova

– Admin. Assistant

Tywon Fitzgerald

– Maintenance Supervisor

Continued on Back

Continued from Front

Why do you enjoy living at Freedom West?

Location is the best attribute Freedom West offers its residents. To the east is Civic Center, Downtown and Embarcadero. To the north is Pacific Heights, the Marina and Chrissy Fields. To the west is Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach. And to the south is the rest of San Francisco and the freeway entrance to the greater Bay Area. Freedom West allows endless possibilities and accessibility.

What changes have you noticed during your time living here at Freedom West?

Over time, the decay and erosion of the property and residential attitude and mindset has been the great adversary to the renewal of the existing Freedom West. Lack of strong community involvement, no honest or educated oversight of pass property managements, maintenance and outside contractors. A small minority of residents purposely attacked Freedom West, dividing the community and burning the bridge of fellowship that made Freedom West the special place mentioned earlier.

What do you hope to see for the future of Freedom West?

The biggest and most noticeable positive change is a strong Board of Directors. This unique group has been solely focusing on restoring, repairing and revitalizing the property and people's perception. The Freedom West Alumni is another big deal. This group has brought grassroots community events, resources and outreach to the property for the past year. We have an effective and accountable property management company (Avanath). And an awesome security company (SVR) who is community-based and hires from the local area. Freedom West is moving in the right direction and is now being spoke about with admiration within the co-op and apartment complex community in the surrounding area. People want to know how we sparked this renaissance.

Why is Freedom West 2.0 so important?

FW2.0 is in alignment with the rebranding and restructuring our community. Our property will soon be 50 years old. The surrounding area and times have changed and leaped passed us by light years. We deserve to live in luxury at the same cost we pay today. We need to be more mindful of the environment we live in and came through. In the late 70's, the mayor was assassinated two blocks away from FW, people rioted two blocks away from FW. The 80's had the war on drugs and unfair racially motivated laws targeting Black men, especially young Black men, which led to the destruction of the Black community. Brutal military style policing. In the 90's, the eruption of gang violence and homicides took over San Francisco with the Fillmoe being a high ranking area for this type of activity. In the 2000's, there was the take-off of the dot-com and redirection of San Francisco. The neighborhoods and historical Black communities were forgotten about, or marked to change. By 2010, the horrors of gentrification were evident and unstoppable in all the traditional classified minority areas. Now, in today's time, FW has positioned itself at the table of change. We are not at the table as an invited guest, but FW is the host. These development vision and plans are ours. Every partner at the table we selected, and we advise. FW2.0 is our voice—not the city, not the state and not HUD. No big money grabs offered us money at our weakest moment. We have been on an upturn before the FW2.0 vision. But we do know that change is inevitable and FW in its current state won't last another 50 years. It hurts my heart to see seniors, pioneers and the legends who made a way for me, walking up three flights of stairs. Or be carried down three flights of stairs on a gurney. I just want the best lifestyle we can imagine. We deserve the sweetest life, and our future generations should inherit a financially sound, impactful and iconic landmark destination to be known as Freedom West 2.0

Do you have any advice that you would like to share with the next generation of Freedom West residents?

I ask and encourage all residents to speak to one another, go out your way to be kind and helpful. We can't change the past, but we control our future. No community grows where love doesn't exist. I love everything Freedom West.

FREEDOM WEST

Management Corner

Who to contact in emergency situations:

- If you are experiencing a **medical emergency**, please call 911 immediately.
- Freedom West's security company is SVR. The security team can be reached at 415-724-3215

Call the management office if:

- There is a repair needed in your unit
- You have an issue with payment of carrying charges
- You have an issue with registering a vehicle to qualify for parking on a Freedom West lot
- You have a pest control issue. Pest Control service is the 4th Wednesday of every month. Please call the office to get on the schedule.
- You have an issue with a neighbor

Board Meeting Schedule

- July 26th at 6 p.m. On Zoom