

December 4, 2009

To: San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102

San Francisco Planning Commission
1660 Mission Street, First Floor
San Francisco, CA 94103-2479

San Francisco Health Commission
101 Grove Street
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Supervisors and Commissioners:

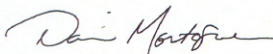
March of Dimes is a national organization with California Chapter and Bay Area Division offices in San Francisco. We are dedicated to improving the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth and infant mortality. In San Francisco March of Dimes has a great partner in California Pacific Medical Center (CPMC). CPMC has been a March of Dimes partner for many years, helping women have healthy pregnancies, safe deliveries and healthy children. As I'm sure you are aware, California Pacific is a regional center for high risk obstetrics delivering close to 7,000 babies a year.

Access to quality high risk obstetrics is important to families in San Francisco as more women are waiting until later in life to have children putting them at higher risk for complications and birth defects. We support CPMC's efforts to improve the community's health care infrastructure, especially as nearly 9,000 families in the Bay Area are touched every year by prematurity or birth defects.

Comprehensive prenatal care is important in the health and well being of both mother and child. With CPMC buildings close to historically underserved, low income neighborhoods we hope that this will make the hospital's new facilities and expertise available to an even wider group of women, many of whom have traditionally not been able to access this level of care.

The March of Dimes has collaborated with CPMC on countless projects over the years that have served and educated the community. Sutter Health and CPMC are major sponsors of our March for Babies event and have committed their resources and time to helping us give babies a chance for a healthy future.

Sincerely,



Dani Montague
State Director, CA Chapter
March of Dimes