

The Mayor's Challenge:

**SHAPE  
UP**  
SAN FRANCISCO

**Southeast  
Food Access**

*Working Group*

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**Southeast Food  
Access Working  
Group**

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BVHP Farmer's Market

BVHP Foundation

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Health Center

Hunter's Point Family

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Network for Elders

Quesada Gardens  
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Reachout for the  
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Bank

SF Wholesale Produce  
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**IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**October 29, 2007**

**SEFA Releases Bayview-Hunters Point Food Preferences Survey Results  
*Residents Want Food Options that Other Neighborhoods Take for Granted***

The Southeast Sector Food Access (SEFA) Working Group today released findings from a new survey that shows San Francisco's Bayview-Hunters Point (BVHP) residents view access to fresh and healthy food as an urgent issue. For over 20 years, BVHP residents have been asking for quality grocery stores in their neighborhood. Residents in the BVHP suffer from disproportionately higher rates of health problems associated with poor nutrition than other neighborhoods with more healthy food options.

The Southeast Sector Food Preferences Survey was created and administered by the SEFA Working Group to 562 residents who reflect the diversity of the neighborhood. **Ninety-four percent of those surveyed say they would actively support new food options in the Bayview-Hunters Point.**

**Other Significant Survey Findings:**

- Most residents buy their food outside of the neighborhood. Over half (58%) say they frequently buy their groceries at Safeways in other neighborhoods.
- Four out of five respondents say "freshness" is the most important factor when choosing a place to shop for food; far more than those who prioritize affordability and other factors.
- Survey respondents care about values associated with workers' rights and organic foods. A majority (58%) want a co-op market; and over half (53%) say it is "most important" that foods be free of pesticides and chemicals, and be grown by local farmers who treat farm workers fairly.

**Related Statistics:**

- The BVHP has the highest rate of all San Francisco neighborhoods in ambulatory hospitalizations for adult uncontrolled diabetes and congestive heart failure, and also accounts for a disproportionate share of deaths from hypertension/heart disease. [San Francisco Department of Public Health, 2004 Community Health Assessment.]
- Grocery sales leakage in the Bayview-Hunters Point has reached \$38 million and is getting worse. [MOEWD, 2007]

Mark Ghaly, SEFA Co-Chair and Southeast Health Center Director, said, "This survey makes clear how urgent it is that we find a way to provide Bayview-Hunters Point residents with convenient access to the same kinds of healthful foods available in any other San Francisco neighborhood. The disproportionate number of people here struggling with obesity, asthma, heart disease and other health issues demands that we do better."

The *Southeast Sector Food Preferences Survey* was administered in English, Spanish, and Chinese between June and September of 2007. SEFA is a working group of the Mayor's Shape Up SF Coalition, and is composed of city agencies and community based organizations such as home delivery programs, corner store conversion projects, food banks and pantries, school and community food garden projects, and health care and community development initiatives.

Survey results are available at [www.shapeupsf.org](http://www.shapeupsf.org).