

## CHRONICLEWATCH RESULTS

Working for a better Bay Area

Suzanne Pullen

Wednesday, August 17, 2005

### Results

San Francisco street gets greener: Volunteers donated plants, soil and green thumbs Saturday morning, rejuvenating four empty planters on Polk Street. The planters came to our attention last month, after tipster Carlos Garcia of San Francisco told us that the empty concrete containers between Pine and Bush streets were being used as trash cans and smelled foul. We contacted San Francisco Public Works Department spokeswoman Christine Falvey about the problem. She told us the planters are the responsibility of Mercy Housing, a nonprofit group that is renovating the 61-unit Leland Polk Senior Community. Falvey's agency issued a notice to the group to clean up the problem, but Mercy Housing spokeswoman Megan Brunet told us that unanticipated seismic work had eaten into the landscaping budget for the planters. ChronicleWatch ran an item calling for volunteers last month, and several readers stepped forward, including Janet Moyer and Michael Hoffman from Janet Moyer Landscaping, and Don Baldocchi from Pacific Nurseries. Both companies donated the plants and planning for the project. "It was something so easy for us to do, and it made such a difference to the neighbors and the seniors," Moyer said. Mercy Housing project coordinator Jennifer Dolin said four other volunteers helped fertilize the soil and did the planting. "It was great," she said. "I'm always amazed at how many people want to volunteer but sometimes aren't sure how to get connected. Thanks for helping."

Who looked into it: Mohammed Nuru, San Francisco Public Works deputy director of operations, (415) 695-2003; [mohammed.nuru@sfdpw.org](mailto:mohammed.nuru@sfdpw.org).

<http://sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2005/08/17/BAGB9E8RRR1.DTL>

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