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One or two drinks a day may lower heart attack risk. **PAGE 2**

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# THE CITY STAR

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2007 FREE



COURTESY URBAN SOLUTIONS

Above, the Alder Hotel property sits shuttered and waits for new life on the Sixth Street corridor years ago, before work had begun. At right, the same Alder Hotel property, post-Urban Solutions revitalization facelift. Six more commercial corridors in the city can look forward to a similar transition in the future as the nonprofit tackles the unique challenges that those neighborhoods now face.



## Business corridors finding Urban Solutions

### Group beautifying, revitalizing streets

By Adam Brody

Special to The City Star

After playing an integral part in the redevelopment of the Sixth Street corridor over the past several years, nonprofit economic development corporation Urban Solutions has begun work to help revitalize six more commercial corridors

spread throughout six different neighborhoods in the city.

The Sixth Street beautification campaign, known as “Six on Sixth,” is a collaboration between Urban Solutions and the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency that began in 2003 and aimed to bring at least six new businesses to the Sixth Street corridor between Market and Harrison Streets.

Since then the sidewalks have been widened, new palm and pear trees dot the street, and old-fashioned streetlights

have been added. But the best part is that Urban Solutions far exceeded their goal: 14 new businesses have opened, with four more scheduled to open in early 2007.

“We also have six vacancies that are ready to rent right now,” said Tracy Everwine, project director at Urban Solutions. “And I’m proud to say we have prospective tenants for all of them.”

In July the Mayor’s Office of Economic and Workforce Development earmarked funds

for the Neighborhood Marketplace Initiative, in which Urban Solutions is partnered with the Local Initiatives Support Corporation to provide business attraction services to commercial corridors in Excelsior, Ingleside, Portola, the Tenderloin, Visitacion Valley and Western Addition.

Those neighborhoods can look forward to newly beautified streets and the economic benefits that come with business development focused on a community’s specific needs.

“We work with neighborhood organizations in each of those corridors to help us determine what business are needed in those areas,” said Maureen Futtner, development and communications manager at Urban Solutions.

“We’ve made a lot of progress,” Everwine said. “We’re still trying to get all the contact information for all those vacant properties. But the ones where we do have information we have been actively showing. And there has been a lot of interest.”

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