

# San Francisco Examiner

## Treasure Island plan could save redwoods

Mayor Brown,  
federal government  
negotiate land swap

By Gerald D. Adams  
EXAMINER URBAN PLANNING WRITER

A dramatic proposal aimed at saving the world's largest stand of virgin redwoods from being logged has been introduced by Mayor

Wednesday, July 17, 1996 ★

Brown as a possible feature of a Treasure Island development plan.

Brown said Tuesday that Pacific Lumber Co., owner of the 3,000-acre redwood stand in the Headwaters Forest of Humboldt County, was being urged to donate the grove to the federal government in exchange for rights to develop housing on Treasure Island.

The Clinton administration already is trying to pry the Headwaters loose from Pacific Lumber's parent firm, Texas-based Maxxam Inc., as a straight purchase or a swap for Maxxam chief Charles Hurwitz's alleged debts from a savings and loan failure.

So far, the Headwaters is an undisturbed forest. But the state has given Pacific Lumber permission to start removing dead or fallen trees in September, and environmentalists fear that the lumber company may someday set its sights on live trees.

At a press conference, Brown said he would be meeting with Deputy Interior Secretary John

Garamendi to work out details of the proposal.

The mayor also backed a plan to set aside 375 housing units on Treasure and Yerba Buena islands for the homeless after the Navy leaves in September 1997. But he added, "I don't want people to get the impression that we're turning Treasure Island over to the homeless. That would be a tragedy."

Board of Supervisors President Kevin Shelley and other members of the board's Base Closure Committee Tuesday enthusiastically endorsed the Treasure Island-Yerba Buena Island concept plan, which sets aside areas for housing, hotels, open space and other uses.

The agreement to designate 375 out of 1,100 units for the homeless was negotiated by the Redevelopment Agency and the 14-organization Treasure Island Homeless Development Initiative.

Under federal law, The City must consider needs of the homeless as part of its base reuse plan.

"The chief priority for Treasure Island should be for the homeless," Shelley said. Such provisions would not necessarily be at the expense of money-making uses such as a theme park, hotels or soccer fields, he said.

The plan was also applauded by Josh Brandon of the Coalition on Homelessness, who called the agreement a "chance to create a new San Francisco neighborhood, a collaborative community for the poor and the wealthy."

Supervisor Amos Brown extolled the 200-page reuse document, saying, "Bases that were utilized to help people go out to kill ... are now for healing."

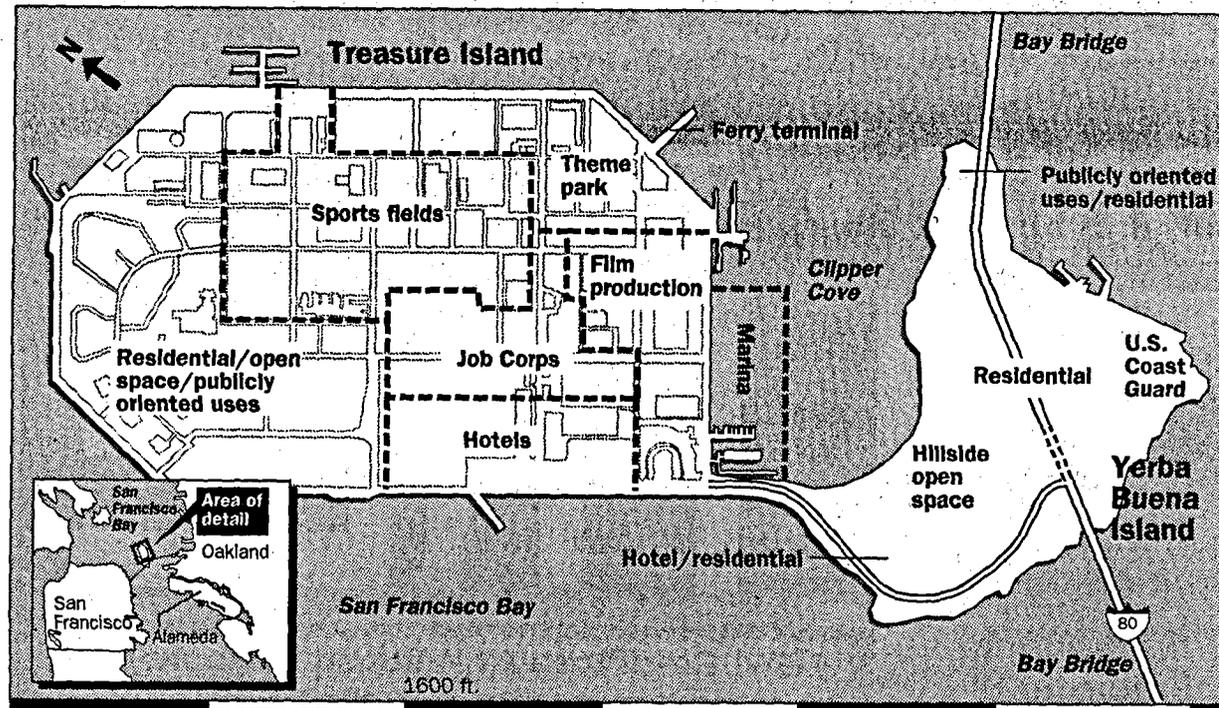
# San Francisco Examiner

A-4 Wednesday, July 17, 1996 ★

SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER

## TREASURE ISLAND VISIONS

A Board of Supervisors committee has approved a plan to use Treasure Island when the military leaves the base that includes housing, the Job Corps, a theme park, hotels, open space and a ferry terminal.



SOURCE: City Planning Department, Redevelopment Agency

EXAMINER GRAPHICS