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Commercial real estate

Tech legend sees SoMa -- in Oakland

Staff

San Francisco Business Times

When famed technology titan and philanthropist [Mitch Kapor](#) looks at Oakland, he remembers South of Market in San Francisco the way it was in the late 1990s.

Former industrial properties were being transformed into inexpensive spaces for both startup tech companies and residents. There was a buzz of innovation in the air.

SoMa today is not the same place Kapor remembers, but Oakland could be.

"Oakland in particular is the next great South of Market," Kapor said. "It will be to this decade what South of Market was to the previous one. There's lots of space, both to work and ...

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Steven E.F. Brown

On thing Oakland has that SoMa lacks: Hank the Rescue Bird and his crew of pelicans.