



November 17, 2023

Supervisor Ahsha Safai
Members, Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: File 231008

Supervisor Safai,

I am returning file 231008 unsigned. Though this ordinance was unanimously passed by the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, October 31, 2023 and again on Tuesday, November 7, 2023, I have concerns regarding some of the strategies outlined in this proposal.

As I have said numerous times, San Franciscans deserve a Police Department and public safety infrastructure that keep our residents, businesses, and streets safe. I agree with the premise that more police officers on the streets – including walking foot beats – has a positive impact on public safety. The issue is not whether having police officers walking foot beats is good for the city. The issue is that, in order to have more officers on the streets, we need more officers in the department to deploy. While these kinds of prescriptive directives sound like good policy, they will yield little impact when there are not the human resources to fulfill them.

With regards to this ordinance, I have specific concerns surrounding the misguided policy outlined in Section 1 (c)(B), which says the Police Department shall “develop a map outlining the footprint of the foot and/or bike patrols beats.” Having the department produce a public document that advertises details regarding police presence could result in unintended negative consequences such as compromising operational integrity.

As we continue to pursue policies that increase the number of active-duty police officers, I welcome the opportunity to discuss policies that leverage our existing infrastructure and allow them to be dynamic in the ways they protect and serve our City.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "London Breed".

London N. Breed
Mayor