

華 埠 商 人 協 會



CHINATOWN MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION

667 Grant Avenue ❀ San Francisco ❀ California 94108 ❀ Tel: (415) 982-6306 ❀ Fax: (415) 982-6306

September 16, 2021

Via Email myrna.melgar@sfgov.org

Supervisor Myrna Melgar
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Via Email aaron.peskin@sfgov.org

Supervisor Aaron Peskin
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
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1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Via Email dean.preston@sfgov.org

Supervisor Dean Preston
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Proposed Amendment to Planning Code - Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street
San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 20, 2021

Dear Supervisors Melgar, Peskin, and Preston:

The Chinatown Merchants Association fully supports the proposed Amendment to Planning Code preserving Chinatown and encouraging creative uses to our commercial corridors in Chinatown.

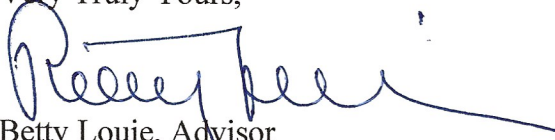
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 16, 2021

It is heartbreaking to see the many vacant storefronts in Chinatown. COVID-19 has devastated small businesses and these businesses drive the economic activity in Chinatown, provide essential services to many of our residents, and provide opportunities to residents. Chinatown has also been one of the main attractions to visitors to San Francisco and a contributor to the City's economy. We need a vibrant Chinatown and these amendments to the Planning Code protects many of the small businesses and can be a start of the revitalization of Chinatown.

If the Chinatown community has any hope of preserving its community, we need to remember that we must have zoning regulations that help allow for the growth of our community, not kill it off. As it is, the community has dozens of empty storefronts and offices that no one wants. To keep controls will only serve to frustrate and destroy our community.

We support the proposed amendments to the Planning Code.

Very Truly Yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Betty Louie", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Betty Louie, Advisor

Chinatown Merchants Association

cc: Allan E. Low, Esq.
Perkins Coie, LLP
(via email alow@perkinscoie.com)



September 15, 2021

Public Comment

To Supervisors and Members of the Committee,

Asian Pacific Islander Cultural Center (APICC) supports the proposed ordinance to change small business zoning controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street (Board File No. 210600).

APICC is a city recognized Cultural Center and has been advocating for equity for Asian Americans for decades. This proposed change will allow for a permanent home for artists, cultural bearers and community activists in Chinatown as members in the Chinatown community have been able to garner the support of state funding for a new building. This is an historic moment for Chinatown and we hope we have your support to see it happen.

APICC strongly supports the proposed ordinance to change small business zoning controls in Chinatown and North Beach, and on Polk Street in order to provide support to allow important philanthropic and social service uses in Chinatown, and to support any legacy restaurants and businesses.

Sincerely,

Vinay Patel
Executive Director

Yukiya Jerry Waki
President of the Board of Directors



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September 15, 2021

Via Email myrna.melgar@sfgov.org

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Via Email aaron.peskin@sfgov.org

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Via Email dean.preston@sfgov.org

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San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Letter in Support of Ordinance to Change Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street (Board File 210600)

To the Chair and Members of the Land Use and Transportation Committee,

I am writing on behalf of **Chinatown Community Development Center (CCDC)**, which supports the proposed ordinance to change small business zoning controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street (Board File No. 210600).

CCDC is a place-based community development organization serving primarily the Chinatown neighborhood, in addition to North Beach and the Tenderloin. We serve many roles: neighborhood advocates, organizer and planners, and crucially, developers and managers of affordable housing.

With relation to the Chinatown adjustments, this ordinance will adjust a previous ordinance amending the Planning Code to prohibit retail workspace in Chinatown Mixed-Use Districts. In 2020, CCDC worked with Supervisor Peskin's Office to limit the encroachment of office workspaces in Chinatown, which could drive up rents and make it difficult for legacy merchants to compete. CCDC was supportive of the previous ordinance, and we believe that his new proposed ordinance will build upon it by providing greater flexibility for community-serving uses and because it supports legacy businesses, in addition to supporting use size restrictions that continues to protect Chinatown.

There are multiple positive outcomes for the Chinatown community.



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Allowing social service or philanthropic facilities in Chinatown to exceed the use size maximums with Conditional Use Authorizations would allow for the development of important community spaces for both API and broader BIPOC communities. On the horizon, six leading Chinatown cultural organizations (CCDC, Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation, Chinese Cultural Center, Chinese Historical Society of America, Center for Affirmative Action, and Center for Asian American Media) have received \$26.5 million in state funding for *Edge on the Square*, a contemporary arts and media destination located at 800 Grant Avenue that will house build a cultural entity and inclusion in a manner that opens hearts and changes minds. Passing this ordinance is essential for the cultivation of important cultural spaces for API and the broader BIPOC communities.

Legacy businesses are also supported by amended ordinances by allowing the space that they need to operate. Legacy restaurants and small businesses have struggled during the COVID-19 pandemic with the waves of shutdowns and added pressure of anti-Asian hate that has seen fewer residents visit Asian ethnic enclaves. While the amended ordinances do not alleviate many of the financial pressures that small business owners are experiencing, it does provide legacy restaurants the space that they would need, should they like to move to another space in Chinatown.

CCDC strongly supports the proposed ordinance to change small business zoning controls in Chinatown and North Beach, and on Polk Street in order to provide support to allow important philanthropic and social service uses in Chinatown, and to support any legacy restaurants and businesses.

Yours Sincerely,

Amy Zhou
Planner, Chinatown Community Development Center

Cc: Mabel Teng
Interim Executive Director, Chinatown Media and Arts Collaborative

Erica Major
Assistant Clerk, Board of Supervisors



CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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September 16, 2021

Via Email myrna.melgar@sfgov.org

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Re: Proposed Amendment to Planning Code - Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street
San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 20, 2021

Dear Supervisors Melgar, Peskin, and Preston:

This letter is in support of the proposed amendments to the Planning Code preserving small businesses in and revitalizing Chinatown.

The Chinese Chamber of Commerce supports economic activity and business development in Chinatown. Many of our members are small businesses that are the lifeblood of Chinatown. Small businesses drive the economic activity in Chinatown and keep Chinatown an opportunity for many residents. An overwhelming number of small businesses are suffering irreparable economic harm caused by the COVID-19. These amendments to the Planning Code will protect Chinatown small businesses and help bring workers, pedestrians and visitors to Chinatown to eat, shop, and plan in Chinatown.

San Francisco Board of Supervisors
Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 16, 2021

We strongly support the proposed amendments to the Planning Code.

Very Truly Yours,

Chinese Chamber of Commerce



Eddie Au, President

cc: Allan E. Low, Esq.
Perkins Coie, LLP
(via email alow@perkinscoie.com)



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September 17, 2021

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Via Email dean.preston@sfgov.org

Supervisor Dean Preston
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1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Letter in Support of Ordinance to Change Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street (Board File 210600)

To the Chair and Members of the Land Use and Transportation Committee,

I am writing on behalf of Brightline Defense Project (“Brightline”) to support the proposed ordinance to change small business zoning controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street (Board File No. 210600). Brightline is an environmental justice nonprofit working to empower communities and build sustainable environments. Among other projects specific to SF Chinatown, our organization has worked on air quality, food insecurity, parks and green space, SRO resident needs, language access, and workforce development.

There are multiple positive outcomes from this proposed ordinance for the Chinatown community. Allowing social service or philanthropic facilities in Chinatown to exceed the use size maximums with Conditional Use Authorizations would allow for the development of important community spaces for both API and broader BIPOC communities. On the horizon, six leading Chinatown cultural organizations (CCDC, Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation, Chinese Cultural Center, Chinese Historical Society of America, Center for Affirmative Action, and Center for Asian American Media) have received \$26.5 million in state funding for *Edge on the Square*, a contemporary arts and media destination located at 800 Grant Avenue that will house build a cultural entity and inclusion in a manner that opens hearts and changes minds. Passing this ordinance is essential for the cultivation of important cultural spaces for API and the broader BIPOC communities.

Legacy businesses are also supported by amended ordinances by allowing the space that they need to operate. Legacy restaurants and small businesses have struggled during the COVID-19 pandemic with the waves of shutdowns and added pressure of anti-Asian hate that has seen fewer residents visit Asian ethnic enclaves. While the amended ordinances do not alleviate many of the financial pressures that small business owners are experiencing, it does provide legacy restaurants the space that they would need, should they like to move to another space in Chinatown.

Brightline Defense strongly supports the proposed ordinance to change small business zoning controls in Chinatown and North Beach, and on Polk Street in order to provide support to allow important philanthropic and social service uses in Chinatown, and to support any legacy restaurants and businesses.

Yours
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eddie Ahn', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Eddie Ahn
Executive Director, Brightline Defense

Cc:
Erica Major
Assistant Clerk, Board of Supervisors
Via Email erica.major@sfgov.org

Mabel Teng
Interim Executive Director, Chinatown Media and Arts Collaborative
Via Email tengmabel@gmail.com

Allan Low
Perkins Coie LLP
Via Email alow@perkinscoie.com



September 17, 2021

To the Chair and Members of the Land Use and Transportation Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Center for Asian American Media, CAAM, which supports the proposed ordinance to change small business zoning controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street (Board File No. 210600).

Our mission at CAAM is to present stories that reflect the richness and diversity of the Asian American community to the broadest audiences possible. There are multiple positive outcomes from this proposed ordinance for the Chinatown community.

Allowing social service or philanthropic facilities in Chinatown to exceed the use size maximums with Conditional Use Authorizations would allow for the development of important community spaces for both API and broader BIPOC communities. On the horizon, six leading Chinatown cultural organizations (CCDC, Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation, Chinese Cultural Center, Chinese Historical Society of America, Center for Affirmative Action, and Center for Asian American Media) have received \$26.5 million in state funding for *Edge on the Square*, a contemporary arts and media destination located at 800 Grant Avenue that will house build a cultural entity and inclusion in a manner that opens hearts and changes minds. Passing this ordinance is essential for the cultivation of important cultural spaces for API and the broader BIPOC communities.

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CAAM strongly supports the proposed ordinance to change small business zoning controls in Chinatown and North Beach, and on Polk Street in order to provide support to allow important philanthropic and social service uses in Chinatown, and to support any legacy restaurants and businesses.

Yours Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Stephen Gong
Executive Director

STORIES TO LIGHT

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Cc: Erica Major
Assistant Clerk, Board of Supervisors
Via Email erica.major@sfgov.org

Mabel Teng
Interim Executive Director, Chinatown Media and Arts Collaborative
Via Email tengmabel@gmail.com

Allan Low
Perkins Coie LLP
Via Email alow@perkinscoie.com



**BOARD OF
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September 17, 2021

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H&P Editor

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Connie Young Yu
Emeritus

Re: Letter in Support of Ordinance to Change Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street (Board File 210600)

To the Chair and Members of the Land Use and Transportation Committee,

I am writing on behalf of **Chinatown Community Development Center (CCDC)**, which supports the proposed ordinance to change small business zoning controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street (Board File No. 210600). CCDC is a place-based community development organization serving primarily the Chinatown neighborhood, in addition to North Beach and the Tenderloin. We serve many roles: neighborhood advocates, organizer and planners, and crucially, developers and managers of affordable housing.

With relation to the Chinatown adjustments, this ordinance will adjust a previous ordinance amending the Planning Code to prohibit retail workspace in Chinatown Mixed-Use Districts. In 2020, CCDC worked with Supervisor Peskin's Office to limit the encroachment of office workspaces in Chinatown, which could drive up rents and make it difficult for legacy merchants to compete. CCDC was supportive of the previous ordinance, and we believe that his new proposed ordinance will build upon it by providing greater flexibility for



**CHINESE
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY of
AMERICA**

community-serving uses and because it supports legacy businesses, in addition to supporting use size restrictions that continues to protect Chinatown.

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CCDC strongly supports the proposed ordinance to change small business zoning controls in Chinatown and North Beach, and on Polk Street in order to provide support to allow important philanthropic and social service uses in Chinatown, and to support any legacy restaurants and businesses.

Yours Sincerely,

Justin Hoover

Executive Director
Chinese Historical Society of America



September 16, 2021

Via Email myrna.melgar@sfgov.org

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RE: Proposed Amendment to Planning Code - Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street

San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 20, 2021 | File # 210600

Dear Supervisors Melgar, Peskin, and Preston:

Chinese for Affirmative Action (CAA) is in support of the proposed amendments to Planning Code Section 121.4.

CAA is one of the founding organizations of Chinatown Media and Arts Collaborative, which is a non-profit corporation that seeks to develop “Edge on the Square,” at 800 Grant Avenue. Edge on the Square will be an important center for Asian American contemporary media and arts. The center will be a collaborative platform for artists, performers, scholars, and

educators and will bring visitors to Chinatown resulting in increased economic activity in the community.

We strongly support the proposed amendments to the Planning Code..

Truly,



Vincent Pan
Co-Executive Director
Chinese for Affirmative Action

cc: Allan E. Low, Esq.
Perkins Coie, LLP
(via email alow@perkinscoie.com)

From: [Sarah Wan](#)
To: [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Peskin, Aaron \(BOS\)](#); [Preston, Dean \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Mabel Teng Ngan](#); [Low, Allan E. \(Perkins Coie\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Letter in Support of Ordinance to Change Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street (Board File 210600)
Date: Monday, September 20, 2021 12:30:43 PM
Attachments: [CYC LOS - Change Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street \(Board File 210600\).pdf](#)

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

To the Chair and Members of the Land Use and Transportation Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Community Youth Center of San Francisco (CYC) to support the proposed ordinance to change small business zoning controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street (Board File No. 210600).

For over 50 years, CYC has been an expert in providing culturally competent services to diverse youth throughout San Francisco. Originally founded to address the problems of juvenile delinquency and gang violence in Chinatown, CYC has grown to encompass behavioral health, education, intervention, leadership development, street outreach and workforce development in all our programs. We have a deep presence throughout SF, including city-wide programs and targeted initiatives in the Bayview, Chinatown, Ingleside, Mission/Excelsior, Richmond, Sunset, and Tenderloin: all neighborhoods with multi-faceted cultures, histories, challenges, and opportunities. CYCSF is also the community host of the newly renovated Willie Woo Woo Wong Clubhouse to offer much needed wraparound services to the youth and families as well as seniors in Chinatown community.

There are multiple positive outcomes from this proposed ordinance for the Chinatown community. Allowing social service or philanthropic facilities in Chinatown to exceed the use size maximums with Conditional Use Authorizations would allow for the development of important community spaces for both API and broader BIPOC communities. On the horizon, six leading Chinatown cultural organizations (CCDC, Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation, Chinese Cultural Center, Chinese Historical Society of America, Center for Affirmative Action, and Center for Asian American Media) have received \$26.5 million in state funding for *Edge on the Square*, a contemporary arts and media destination located at 800 Grant Avenue that will house build a cultural entity and inclusion in a manner that opens hearts and changes minds. Passing this ordinance is essential for the cultivation of important cultural spaces for API and the broader BIPOC communities.

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CYC strongly supports the proposed ordinance to change small business zoning controls in Chinatown and North Beach, and on Polk Street in order to provide support to allow important philanthropic and social service uses in Chinatown, and to support any legacy restaurants and businesses.

Best regards,

Sarah Ching-Ting Wan
Executive Director
sarahw@cycsf.org

Community Youth Center of San Francisco (CYC)
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Youth are the center of our community.

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September 20, 2021

Via Email myrna.melgar@sfgov.org

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Via Email dean.preston@sfgov.org

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Re: Letter in Support of Ordinance to Change Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street (Board File 210600)

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For over 50 years, CYC has been an expert in providing culturally competent services to diverse youth throughout San Francisco. Originally founded to address the problems of juvenile delinquency and gang violence in Chinatown, CYC has grown to encompass behavioral health, education, intervention, leadership development, street outreach and workforce development in all our programs. We have a deep presence throughout SF, including city-wide programs and targeted initiatives in the Bayview, Chinatown, Ingleside, Mission/Excelsior, Richmond, Sunset, and Tenderloin: all neighborhoods with multi-faceted cultures, histories, challenges, and opportunities. CYCSF is also the community host of the newly renovated Willie Woo Woo Wong Clubhouse to offer much needed wraparound services to the youth and families as well as seniors in Chinatown community.

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There are multiple positive outcomes from this proposed ordinance for the Chinatown community. Allowing social service or philanthropic facilities in Chinatown to exceed the use size maximums with Conditional Use Authorizations would allow for the development of important community spaces for both API and broader BIPOC communities. On the horizon, six leading Chinatown cultural organizations (CCDC, Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation, Chinese Cultural Center, Chinese Historical Society of America, Center for Affirmative Action, and Center for Asian American Media) have received \$26.5 million in state funding for *Edge on the Square*, a contemporary arts and media destination located at 800 Grant Avenue that will house build a cultural entity and inclusion in a manner that opens hearts and changes minds. Passing this ordinance is essential for the cultivation of important cultural spaces for API and the broader BIPOC communities.

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CYC strongly supports the proposed ordinance to change small business zoning controls in Chinatown and North Beach, and on Polk Street in order to provide support to allow important philanthropic and social service uses in Chinatown, and to support any legacy restaurants and businesses.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sarah Wan', is written over a horizontal line.

Sarah Wan
Executive Director

Cc: Erica Major
Assistant Clerk, Board of Supervisors
Via Email erica.major@sfgov.org

Mabel Teng
Interim Executive Director, Chinatown Media and Arts Collaborative
Via Email tengmabel@gmail.com

Allan Low
Perkins Coie LLP
Via Email alow@perkinscoie.com

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September 16, 2021

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Re: Proposed Amendment to Planning Code - Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street

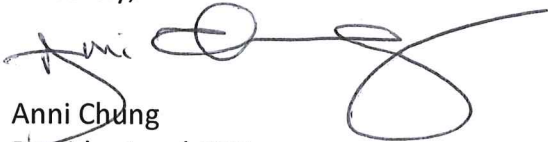
San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Land Use and Transportation Committee
Dear Supervisors Melgar, Peskin, and Preston:

Self-Help for Elderly (SHE) is in support of the proposed amendments to Planning Code Section 121.4.

We are aware of the establishment of the Chinatown Media and Arts Collaborative, which is a non-profit corporation that seeks to develop "Edge on the Square," at 800 Grant Avenue. Edge on the Square will be an important creative platform and an inclusive voice of the Asian American community. Through the power of artist expression, collaborations and exchange of ideas, our families and seniors will harness the energy and excitement of artists, performers, activists, entrepreneurs, designers, technologists, scholars and educators.

We strongly support the proposed amendments to the Planning Code. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Anni Chung
President and CEO

cc: Allan Low, Esq.
Perkins Coie, LLP

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September 15, 2021

Supervisor Myrna Melgar
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
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San Francisco, CA 94102
Via Email myrna.melgar@sfgov.org

Supervisor Aaron Peskin
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
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1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
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Via Email aaron.peskin@sfgov.org

Supervisor Dean Preston
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102
Via Email dean.preston@sfgov.org

Re: Proposed Amendment to Planning Code - Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street
San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 20, 2021

Dear Supervisors Melgar, Peskin, and Preston:

On behalf of the board and staff of the Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation (AIISF), I am writing to express our enthusiastic support for the proposed amendments to Planning Code Section 121.4.

AIISF is one of the founding organizations of Chinatown Media and Arts Collaborative, which is a non-profit corporation that seeks to develop “Edge on the Square,” at 800 Grant Avenue. Edge on the Square will be an important center for Asian American contemporary media and arts. The center will be a collaborative platform for artists, performers, scholars, and educators and will bring visitors to Chinatown resulting in increased economic activity in the community.

For the past 40 years, AIISF has worked to preserve the buildings at the former US Immigration Station at Angel Island and to uplift stories of historic and current-day immigration. Especially with the rise in anti-Asian racism and xenophobia that we have all witnessed in recent years, it is crucial to have spaces like “Edge on the Square” that help to bring increased awareness to our

San Francisco Board of Supervisors
Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 15, 2021

communities' histories, current challenges, and enduring contributions to San Francisco, California, and the nation.

Thus, we strongly support the proposed amendments to the Planning Code.

With warm regards,



Edward Tepporn
Executive Director
Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation

cc: Allan E. Low, Esq.
Perkins Coie, LLP
(via email alow@perkinscoie.com)



1028A Howard Street
San Francisco, CA 94103
415.252.9700 | brightlinedefense.org
f @brightlinedefense @brightlinedef

September 17, 2021

Via Email myrna.melgar@sfgov.org

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Via Email aaron.peskin@sfgov.org

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Supervisor Dean Preston
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall
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Re: Letter in Support of Ordinance to Change Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street (Board File 210600)

To the Chair and Members of the Land Use and Transportation Committee,

I am writing on behalf of Brightline Defense Project (“Brightline”) to support the proposed ordinance to change small business zoning controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street (Board File No. 210600). Brightline is an environmental justice nonprofit working to empower communities and build sustainable environments. Among other projects specific to SF Chinatown, our organization has worked on air quality, food insecurity, parks and green space, SRO resident needs, language access, and workforce development.

There are multiple positive outcomes from this proposed ordinance for the Chinatown community. Allowing social service or philanthropic facilities in Chinatown to exceed the use size maximums with Conditional Use Authorizations would allow for the development of important community spaces for both API and broader BIPOC communities. On the horizon, six leading Chinatown cultural organizations (CCDC, Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation, Chinese Cultural Center, Chinese Historical Society of America, Center for Affirmative Action, and Center for Asian American Media) have received \$26.5 million in state funding for *Edge on the Square*, a contemporary arts and media destination located at 800 Grant Avenue that will house build a cultural entity and inclusion in a manner that opens hearts and changes minds. Passing this ordinance is essential for the cultivation of important cultural spaces for API and the broader BIPOC communities.

Legacy businesses are also supported by amended ordinances by allowing the space that they need to operate. Legacy restaurants and small businesses have struggled during the COVID-19 pandemic with the waves of shutdowns and added pressure of anti-Asian hate that has seen fewer residents visit Asian ethnic enclaves. While the amended ordinances do not alleviate many of the financial pressures that small business owners are experiencing, it does provide legacy restaurants the space that they would need, should they like to move to another space in Chinatown.

Brightline Defense strongly supports the proposed ordinance to change small business zoning controls in Chinatown and North Beach, and on Polk Street in order to provide support to allow important philanthropic and social service uses in Chinatown, and to support any legacy restaurants and businesses.

Yours
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eddie Ahn', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Eddie Ahn
Executive Director, Brightline Defense

Cc:
Erica Major
Assistant Clerk, Board of Supervisors
Via Email erica.major@sfgov.org

Mabel Teng
Interim Executive Director, Chinatown Media and Arts Collaborative
Via Email tengmabel@gmail.com

Allan Low
Perkins Coie LLP
Via Email alow@perkinscoie.com



Proudly consists of:

APA Family Support Services
APA Heritage Foundation
API Cultural Center
API Legal Outreach
Asian Law Caucus, Inc.
Asian Pacific American Community Center
Bayanihan Equity Center
Bill Sorro Housing Program
Brightline Defense Project
Center for Asian American Media
Charity Cultural Services Center
Chinatown Community Children's Center
Chinatown Community Development Center
Chinatown YMCA
Chinese Culture Center of San Francisco
Chinese for Affirmative Action
Chinese Historical Society of America
Chinese Newcomers Service Center
Chinese Progressive Association
Community Youth Center
Donaldina Cameron House
Filipino American Development Foundation
Filipino Community Center
Filipina Women's Network
First Voice
Gum Moon/Asian Women Resources Center
Japanese Community Youth Council
Japantown Task Force
Kai Ming Head Start
Kimochi, Inc.
Manilatown Heritage Foundation
National Japanese American Historical Society
NICOS Chinese Health Coalition
Nihonmachi Street Fair
Northeast Community Federal Credit Union
Northern California Cherry Blossom Festival
North East Medical Services
On Lok
Richmond Area Multi-Services
Rotary Club of SF Chinatown
Samoan Community Development Center
Self-Help for the Elderly
SF Community Health Center
SF Hep B Free
SOMA Pilipinas
South of Market Community Action Network
Southeast Asian Community Center
Southeast Asian Development Center
West Bay Pilipino Multi-Service, Inc.
Wu Yee Children's Services

September 17, 2021

Via Email myrna.melgar@sfgov.org

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Via Email aaron.peskin@sfgov.org

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Supervisor Dean Preston
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
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San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: [Proposed Amendments to Planning Code - Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street](#)
San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 20, 2021

Dear Supervisors Melgar, Peskin, and Preston:

This letter is in support of the proposed amendments to Planning Code Section 121.4 that will preserve and revitalize Chinatown.

The API Council is a 57-member coalition of nonprofit organizations in San Francisco that ensure that underserved Asian & Pacific Islanders' needs are visibly engaged, addressed and represented in policies, research and data collection, and equitable funding allocations to advance overall healthy communities to enhance and shape San Francisco's continued vibrant evolution.

Chinatown has been devastated by the resulting economic crisis from COVID-19, the dramatic rise in Anti-Asian Hate, and now the eruption of ADA lawsuits hitting our small businesses. We need to protect Chinatown and do whatever we can to preserve our communities from the encroachment of the Financial District. At the same time, we need to revitalize Chinatown and make it once again a vibrant place for residents, workers, and visitors. The amendments to the Planning Code will help achieve both the preservation of our community and will give our small businesses opportunities to survive.

It is also crucial to create new uses for our many commercial spaces in Chinatown. The amendments to the Planning Code will bring opportunities for social services and community organizations to utilize vacant space bringing activity and vital pedestrian traffic to our commercial corridors.

We support the proposed amendments to the Planning Code and urge the San Francisco Board of Supervisors to approve the proposed amendments.

Very Truly Yours,

API Council

cc: Allan E. Low, Esq.
Perkins Coie, LLP
(via email alow@perkinscoie.com)

September 15, 2021

Via Email myrna.melgar@sfgov.org

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Re: Proposed Amendment to Planning Code - Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street
San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 20, 2021

Supervisors Melgar, Peskin, and Preston:

This letter is in support of the proposed amendments to the Planning Code Section 121.4 (the “**Amendments**”). The Amendments are much needed to preserve and revitalize Chinatown.

The intent of Chinatown Visitor Retail, Chinatown Residential Neighborhood Commercial, and Chinatown Community Business districts are to prevent the encroachment of the Financial District into Chinatown and to preserve the small businesses and neighborhood community services in Chinatown. The Amendments further the intent and purpose of those zoning districts which will keep Chinatown retail and commercial spaces for small businesses and Chinatown serving organizations. Those small businesses and organizations are vital to Chinatown. The residents of Chinatown shop, eat, and rely on services from these small businesses and organizations.

It is also crucial to revitalize the visits to and visitor experience in Chinatown. The Amendments will allow for creative uses of space in Chinatown allowing for social service, philanthropic, and

San Francisco Board of Supervisors
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September 15, 2021

community organizations to utilize dormant and vacant space promoting pedestrian foot traffic and activity along Chinatown commercial corridors.

Chinatown Community Development Center fully supports the Amendments and urge the San Francisco Board of Supervisors Land Use and Transportation Committee to approve the Amendments.

Very Truly Yours,

Chinatown Community Development Center



Malcolm Yeung

cc: Allan E. Low, Esq.
Perkins Coie, LLP
(via email alow@perkinscoie.com)

華 埠 商 人 協 會



CHINATOWN MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION

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September 16, 2021

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Via Email dean.preston@sfgov.org

Supervisor Dean Preston
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
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San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Proposed Amendment to Planning Code - Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street
San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 20, 2021

Dear Supervisors Melgar, Peskin, and Preston:

The Chinatown Merchants Association fully supports the proposed Amendment to Planning Code preserving Chinatown and encouraging creative uses to our commercial corridors in Chinatown.

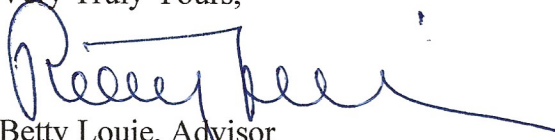
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 16, 2021

It is heartbreaking to see the many vacant storefronts in Chinatown. COVID-19 has devastated small businesses and these businesses drive the economic activity in Chinatown, provide essential services to many of our residents, and provide opportunities to residents. Chinatown has also been one of the main attractions to visitors to San Francisco and a contributor to the City's economy. We need a vibrant Chinatown and these amendments to the Planning Code protects many of the small businesses and can be a start of the revitalization of Chinatown.

If the Chinatown community has any hope of preserving its community, we need to remember that we must have zoning regulations that help allow for the growth of our community, not kill it off. As it is, the community has dozens of empty storefronts and offices that no one wants. To keep controls will only serve to frustrate and destroy our community.

We support the proposed amendments to the Planning Code.

Very Truly Yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Betty Louie", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Betty Louie, Advisor

Chinatown Merchants Association

cc: Allan E. Low, Esq.
Perkins Coie, LLP
(via email alow@perkinscoie.com)



September 17, 2021

To the Chair and Members of the Land Use and Transportation Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Center for Asian American Media, CAAM, which supports the proposed ordinance to change small business zoning controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street (Board File No. 210600).

Our mission at CAAM is to present stories that reflect the richness and diversity of the Asian American community to the broadest audiences possible. There are multiple positive outcomes from this proposed ordinance for the Chinatown community.

Allowing social service or philanthropic facilities in Chinatown to exceed the use size maximums with Conditional Use Authorizations would allow for the development of important community spaces for both API and broader BIPOC communities. On the horizon, six leading Chinatown cultural organizations (CCDC, Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation, Chinese Cultural Center, Chinese Historical Society of America, Center for Affirmative Action, and Center for Asian American Media) have received \$26.5 million in state funding for *Edge on the Square*, a contemporary arts and media destination located at 800 Grant Avenue that will house build a cultural entity and inclusion in a manner that opens hearts and changes minds. Passing this ordinance is essential for the cultivation of important cultural spaces for API and the broader BIPOC communities.

Legacy businesses are also supported by amended ordinances by allowing the space that they need to operate. Legacy restaurants and small businesses have struggled during the COVID-19 pandemic with the waves of shutdowns and added pressure of anti-Asian hate that has seen fewer residents visit Asian ethnic enclaves. While the amended ordinances do not alleviate many of the financial pressures that small business owners are experiencing, it does provide legacy restaurants the space that they would need, should they like to move to another space in Chinatown.

CAAM strongly supports the proposed ordinance to change small business zoning controls in Chinatown and North Beach, and on Polk Street in order to provide support to allow important philanthropic and social service uses in Chinatown, and to support any legacy restaurants and businesses.

Yours Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Stephen Gong
Executive Director

STORIES TO LIGHT

A 145 NINTH STREET, SUITE 350, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103-2641 T 415 863 0814 F 415 863 7428 W WWW.CAAMEDIA.ORG



Cc: Erica Major
Assistant Clerk, Board of Supervisors
Via Email erica.major@sfgov.org

Mabel Teng
Interim Executive Director, Chinatown Media and Arts Collaborative
Via Email tengmabel@gmail.com

Allan Low
Perkins Coie LLP
Via Email alow@perkinscoie.com

From: [Sarah Wan](#)
To: [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Peskin, Aaron \(BOS\)](#); [Preston, Dean \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Mabel Teng Ngan](#); [Low, Allan E. \(Perkins Coie\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Letter in Support of Ordinance to Change Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street (Board File 210600)
Date: Monday, September 20, 2021 12:30:43 PM
Attachments: [CYC LOS - Change Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street \(Board File 210600\).pdf](#)

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To the Chair and Members of the Land Use and Transportation Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Community Youth Center of San Francisco (CYC) to support the proposed ordinance to change small business zoning controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street (Board File No. 210600).

For over 50 years, CYC has been an expert in providing culturally competent services to diverse youth throughout San Francisco. Originally founded to address the problems of juvenile delinquency and gang violence in Chinatown, CYC has grown to encompass behavioral health, education, intervention, leadership development, street outreach and workforce development in all our programs. We have a deep presence throughout SF, including city-wide programs and targeted initiatives in the Bayview, Chinatown, Ingleside, Mission/Excelsior, Richmond, Sunset, and Tenderloin: all neighborhoods with multi-faceted cultures, histories, challenges, and opportunities. CYCSF is also the community host of the newly renovated Willie Woo Woo Wong Clubhouse to offer much needed wraparound services to the youth and families as well as seniors in Chinatown community.

There are multiple positive outcomes from this proposed ordinance for the Chinatown community. Allowing social service or philanthropic facilities in Chinatown to exceed the use size maximums with Conditional Use Authorizations would allow for the development of important community spaces for both API and broader BIPOC communities. On the horizon, six leading Chinatown cultural organizations (CCDC, Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation, Chinese Cultural Center, Chinese Historical Society of America, Center for Affirmative Action, and Center for Asian American Media) have received \$26.5 million in state funding for *Edge on the Square*, a contemporary arts and media destination located at 800 Grant Avenue that will house build a cultural entity and inclusion in a manner that opens hearts and changes minds. Passing this ordinance is essential for the cultivation of important cultural spaces for API and the broader BIPOC communities.

Legacy businesses are also supported by amended ordinances by allowing the space that they need to operate. Legacy restaurants and small businesses have struggled during the COVID-19 pandemic with the waves of shutdowns and added pressure of anti-Asian hate that has seen fewer residents visit Asian ethnic enclaves. While the amended ordinances do not alleviate many of the financial pressures that small business owners are experiencing, it does provide legacy restaurants the space that they would need, should they like to move to another space in Chinatown.

CYC strongly supports the proposed ordinance to change small business zoning controls in Chinatown and North Beach, and on Polk Street in order to provide support to allow important philanthropic and social service uses in Chinatown, and to support any legacy restaurants and businesses.

Best regards,

Sarah Ching-Ting Wan
Executive Director
sarahw@cycsf.org

Community Youth Center of San Francisco (CYC)
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September 16, 2021

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Via Email aaron.peskin@sfgov.org

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Via Email dean.preston@sfgov.org

Supervisor Dean Preston
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
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RE: Proposed Amendment to Planning Code - Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street

San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 20, 2021 | File # 210600

Dear Supervisors Melgar, Peskin, and Preston:

Chinese for Affirmative Action (CAA) is in support of the proposed amendments to Planning Code Section 121.4.

CAA is one of the founding organizations of Chinatown Media and Arts Collaborative, which is a non-profit corporation that seeks to develop “Edge on the Square,” at 800 Grant Avenue. Edge on the Square will be an important center for Asian American contemporary media and arts. The center will be a collaborative platform for artists, performers, scholars, and

educators and will bring visitors to Chinatown resulting in increased economic activity in the community.

We strongly support the proposed amendments to the Planning Code..

Truly,



Vincent Pan
Co-Executive Director
Chinese for Affirmative Action

cc: Allan E. Low, Esq.
Perkins Coie, LLP
(via email alow@perkinscoie.com)



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September 16, 2021

Via Email myrna.melgar@sfgov.org

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Via Email aaron.peskin@sfgov.org

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Via Email dean.preston@sfgov.org

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San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Proposed Amendment to Planning Code - Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street
San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 20, 2021

Dear Supervisors Melgar, Peskin, and Preston:

This letter is in support of the proposed amendments to the Planning Code preserving small businesses in and revitalizing Chinatown.

The Chinese Chamber of Commerce supports economic activity and business development in Chinatown. Many of our members are small businesses that are the lifeblood of Chinatown. Small businesses drive the economic activity in Chinatown and keep Chinatown an opportunity for many residents. An overwhelming number of small businesses are suffering irreparable economic harm caused by the COVID-19. These amendments to the Planning Code will protect Chinatown small businesses and help bring workers, pedestrians and visitors to Chinatown to eat, shop, and plan in Chinatown.

San Francisco Board of Supervisors
Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 16, 2021

We strongly support the proposed amendments to the Planning Code.

Very Truly Yours,

Chinese Chamber of Commerce



Eddie Au, President

cc: Allan E. Low, Esq.
Perkins Coie, LLP
(via email alow@perkinscoie.com)



September 15, 2021

Public Comment

To Supervisors and Members of the Committee,

Asian Pacific Islander Cultural Center (APICC) supports the proposed ordinance to change small business zoning controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street (Board File No. 210600).

APICC is a city recognized Cultural Center and has been advocating for equity for Asian Americans for decades. This proposed change will allow for a permanent home for artists, cultural bearers and community activists in Chinatown as members in the Chinatown community have been able to garner the support of state funding for a new building. This is an historic moment for Chinatown and we hope we have your support to see it happen.

APICC strongly supports the proposed ordinance to change small business zoning controls in Chinatown and North Beach, and on Polk Street in order to provide support to allow important philanthropic and social service uses in Chinatown, and to support any legacy restaurants and businesses.

Sincerely,

Vinay Patel
Executive Director

Yukiya Jerry Waki
President of the Board of Directors

華 埠 商 人 協 會



CHINATOWN MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION

667 Grant Avenue ❀ San Francisco ❀ California 94108 ❀ Tel: (415) 982-6306 ❀ Fax: (415) 982-6306

September 16, 2021

Via Email myrna.melgar@sfgov.org

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Via Email aaron.peskin@sfgov.org

Supervisor Aaron Peskin
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
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Via Email dean.preston@sfgov.org

Supervisor Dean Preston
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
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Re: Proposed Amendment to Planning Code - Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street
San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 20, 2021

Dear Supervisors Melgar, Peskin, and Preston:

The Chinatown Merchants Association fully supports the proposed Amendment to Planning Code preserving Chinatown and encouraging creative uses to our commercial corridors in Chinatown.

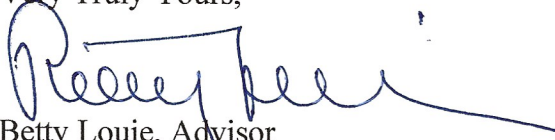
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 16, 2021

It is heartbreaking to see the many vacant storefronts in Chinatown. COVID-19 has devastated small businesses and these businesses drive the economic activity in Chinatown, provide essential services to many of our residents, and provide opportunities to residents. Chinatown has also been one of the main attractions to visitors to San Francisco and a contributor to the City's economy. We need a vibrant Chinatown and these amendments to the Planning Code protects many of the small businesses and can be a start of the revitalization of Chinatown.

If the Chinatown community has any hope of preserving its community, we need to remember that we must have zoning regulations that help allow for the growth of our community, not kill it off. As it is, the community has dozens of empty storefronts and offices that no one wants. To keep controls will only serve to frustrate and destroy our community.

We support the proposed amendments to the Planning Code.

Very Truly Yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Betty Louie", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Betty Louie, Advisor

Chinatown Merchants Association

cc: Allan E. Low, Esq.
Perkins Coie, LLP
(via email alow@perkinscoie.com)



September 16, 2021

Via Email myrna.melgar@sfgov.org

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Via Email aaron.peskin@sfgov.org

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Re: Proposed Amendment to Planning Code - Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street
San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 20, 2021

Dear Supervisors Melgar, Peskin, and Preston:

This letter is in support of the proposed amendments to Planning Code Section 121.4 preserving and revitalizing Chinatown small businesses.

Chinatown Media and Arts Collaborative is a non-profit corporation that seeks to develop “Edge on the Square,” at 800 Grant Avenue, a center for Asian American contemporary media and arts and will leverage the power of art and culture for social and economic recovery. Edge on the

San Francisco Board of Supervisors
Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 16, 2021

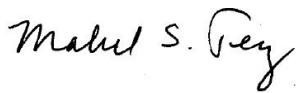
Square will be a venue for artists, performers, activists, entrepreneurs, designers, technologists, scholars, and educators.

It will attract over 250,000 visitors and generate over \$10,000,000 in revenues for local restaurants and businesses. The collaborative platform will celebrate and explore creative expressions at the intersection of community, art and media. Edge on the Square will: a) execute a local initiative with a national scope to present the stories and voices of the neighborhood and of immigrants in order to shape a more inclusive and just America; and b) protect neighborhood assets by providing appropriate development, help maintain Chinatown's vital role as a livable affordable community and contribute to its economic development.

The proposed amendments to the Planning Code will allow for the development of Edge on the Square as a cultural institution over 5,000 square feet in the Chinatown Visitor Retail District. This will be an important cultural institution for Chinatown and help in the revitalization and rebirth of Chinatown.

We strongly support the proposed amendments to the Planning Code.

Very Truly Yours,



Mabel S. Teng
Interim Executive Director
Chinatown Media and Arts Collaborative

cc: Allan E. Low, Esq.
Perkins Coie, LLP
(via email alow@perkinscoie.com)



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September 16, 2021

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Via Email dean.preston@sfgov.org

Supervisor Dean Preston
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Proposed Amendment to Planning Code - Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street
San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 20, 2021

Dear Supervisors Melgar, Peskin, and Preston:

This letter is in support of the proposed amendments to the Planning Code preserving small businesses in and revitalizing Chinatown.

The Chinese Chamber of Commerce supports economic activity and business development in Chinatown. Many of our members are small businesses that are the lifeblood of Chinatown. Small businesses drive the economic activity in Chinatown and keep Chinatown an opportunity for many residents. An overwhelming number of small businesses are suffering irreparable economic harm caused by the COVID-19. These amendments to the Planning Code will protect Chinatown small businesses and help bring workers, pedestrians and visitors to Chinatown to eat, shop, and plan in Chinatown.

San Francisco Board of Supervisors
Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 16, 2021

We strongly support the proposed amendments to the Planning Code.

Very Truly Yours,

Chinese Chamber of Commerce



Eddie Au, President

cc: Allan E. Low, Esq.
Perkins Coie, LLP
(via email alow@perkinscoie.com)



舊金山中華文化基金會

Chinese Culture Foundation of San Francisco

Dedicated to elevating underserved communities
and giving voice to equality through education and contemporary art.

September 16, 2021

Via Email myrna.melgar@sfgov.org

Supervisor Myrna Melgar
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Via Email aaron.peskin@sfgov.org

Supervisor Aaron Peskin
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
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Via Email dean.preston@sfgov.org

Supervisor Dean Preston
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
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Re: Proposed Amendment to Planning Code - Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street
San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 20, 2021

Dear Supervisors Melgar, Peskin, and Preston:

Chinese Culture Center and Foundation of San Francisco(CCC) is in support of the proposed amendments to Planning Code Section 121.4.

CCC is one of the founding organizations of Chinatown Media and Arts Collaborative, which is a non-profit corporation that seeks to develop “Edge on the Square,” at 800 Grant Avenue. Edge on the Square will be an important center for Asian American contemporary media and arts. The center will be a collaborative platform for artists, performers, scholars, and educators and will bring visitors to Chinatown resulting in increased economic activity in the community.

San Francisco Board of Supervisors
Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 16, 2021

We strongly support the proposed amendments to the Planning Code.

Very Truly Yours,

Jenny Leung
Executive Director
Chinese Culture Center

cc: Allan E. Low, Esq.
Perkins Coie, LLP
(via email alow@perkinscoie.com)



**CHINESE
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY of
AMERICA**

**BOARD OF
DIRECTORS**

September 17, 2021

Douglas S. Chan
President

Via Email myrna.melgar@sfgov.org

Supervisor Myrna Melgar
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall
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San Francisco, CA 94102

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Via Email aaron.peskin@sfgov.org

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San Francisco Board of Supervisors
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Via Email dean.preston@sfgov.org

Jonathan H.X Lee
H&P Editor

Supervisor Dean Preston
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Connie Young Yu
Emeritus

Re: Letter in Support of Ordinance to Change Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street (Board File 210600)

To the Chair and Members of the Land Use and Transportation Committee,

I am writing on behalf of **Chinatown Community Development Center (CCDC)**, which supports the proposed ordinance to change small business zoning controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street (Board File No. 210600). CCDC is a place-based community development organization serving primarily the Chinatown neighborhood, in addition to North Beach and the Tenderloin. We serve many roles: neighborhood advocates, organizer and planners, and crucially, developers and managers of affordable housing.

With relation to the Chinatown adjustments, this ordinance will adjust a previous ordinance amending the Planning Code to prohibit retail workspace in Chinatown Mixed-Use Districts. In 2020, CCDC worked with Supervisor Peskin's Office to limit the encroachment of office workspaces in Chinatown, which could drive up rents and make it difficult for legacy merchants to compete. CCDC was supportive of the previous ordinance, and we believe that his new proposed ordinance will build upon it by providing greater flexibility for



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community-serving uses and because it supports legacy businesses, in addition to supporting use size restrictions that continues to protect Chinatown.

There are multiple positive outcomes for the Chinatown community.

Allowing social service or philanthropic facilities in Chinatown to exceed the use size maximums with Conditional Use Authorizations would allow for the development of important community spaces for both API and broader BIPOC communities. On the horizon, six leading Chinatown cultural organizations (CCDC, Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation, Chinese Cultural Center, Chinese Historical Society of America, Center for Affirmative Action, and Center for Asian American Media) have received \$26.5 million in state funding for *Edge on the Square*, a contemporary arts and media destination located at 800 Grant Avenue that will house build a cultural entity and inclusion in a manner that opens hearts and changes minds. Passing this ordinance is essential for the cultivation of important cultural spaces for API and the broader BIPOC communities.

Legacy businesses are also supported by amended ordinances by allowing the space that they need to operate. Legacy restaurants and small businesses have struggled during the COVID-19 pandemic with the waves of shutdowns and added pressure of anti-Asian hate that has seen fewer residents visit Asian ethnic enclaves. While the amended ordinances do not alleviate many of the financial pressures that small business owners are experiencing, it does provide legacy restaurants the space that they would need, should they like to move to another space in Chinatown.

CCDC strongly supports the proposed ordinance to change small business zoning controls in Chinatown and North Beach, and on Polk Street in order to provide support to allow important philanthropic and social service uses in Chinatown, and to support any legacy restaurants and businesses.

Yours Sincerely,

Justin Hoover

Executive Director
Chinese Historical Society of America

September 16, 2021

RE: This letter is in support of the proposed amendments to Planning Code Section 121.4 preserving and revitalizing Chinatown, North Beach and Polk Street small businesses.

San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Land Use and Transportation Committee
Meeting on September 20, 2021

Dear Supervisors Melgar, Peskin, and Preston:

This letter is in support of the proposed amendments to Planning Code Section 121.4 preserving and revitalizing Chinatown small businesses.

As a long-time resident in Chinatown, Executive Director of Chinese Newcomers, Community Youth Center, and HomeownershipSF, and now owner of a small business in Chinatown, Sam Wo, I have been working with nonprofits and businesses to improve business conditions in Chinatown.

The Chinatown Media and Arts Collaborative is a non-profit corporation that seeks to develop “Edge on the Square,” at 800 Grant Avenue, a center for Asian American contemporary media and arts and will leverage the power of art and culture for social and economic recovery. Edge on the Square will be a venue for artists, performers, activists, entrepreneurs, designers, technologists, scholars, and educators. It will attract over 250,000 visitors and generate over \$10,000,000 in revenues for local restaurants and businesses.

The proposed amendments to the Planning Code will allow for the development of Edge on the Square as a cultural institution over 5,000 square feet in the Chinatown Visitor Retail District. This will be an important cultural institution for Chinatown and help in the revitalization and rebirth of Chinatown.

We strongly support the proposed amendments to the Planning Code.

Very Truly Yours,

Carlos Serrano-Quan, Member of the Chinatown Community for 47 years

cc: Allan E. Low, Esq.
Perkins Coie, LLP (via email alow@perkinscoie.com)

Cc: Mabel Teng, CMAC, via email



September 20, 2021

Via Email myrna.melgar@sfgov.org

Supervisor Myrna Melgar
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102

Via Email aaron.peskin@sfgov.org

Supervisor Aaron Peskin
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
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Via Email dean.preston@sfgov.org

Supervisor Dean Preston
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
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1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Letter in Support of Ordinance to Change Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street (Board File 210600)

To the Chair and Members of the Land Use and Transportation Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Community Youth Center of San Francisco (CYC) to support the proposed ordinance to change small business zoning controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street (Board File No. 210600).

For over 50 years, CYC has been an expert in providing culturally competent services to diverse youth throughout San Francisco. Originally founded to address the problems of juvenile delinquency and gang violence in Chinatown, CYC has grown to encompass behavioral health, education, intervention, leadership development, street outreach and workforce development in all our programs. We have a deep presence throughout SF, including city-wide programs and targeted initiatives in the Bayview, Chinatown, Ingleside, Mission/Excelsior, Richmond, Sunset, and Tenderloin: all neighborhoods with multi-faceted cultures, histories, challenges, and opportunities. CYCSF is also the community host of the newly renovated Willie Woo Woo Wong Clubhouse to offer much needed wraparound services to the youth and families as well as seniors in Chinatown community.

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TEL: 415.752.9675
FAX: 415.752.9033

WEBSITE: www.cycsf.org
EMAIL: cyc@cycsf.org



There are multiple positive outcomes from this proposed ordinance for the Chinatown community. Allowing social service or philanthropic facilities in Chinatown to exceed the use size maximums with Conditional Use Authorizations would allow for the development of important community spaces for both API and broader BIPOC communities. On the horizon, six leading Chinatown cultural organizations (CCDC, Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation, Chinese Cultural Center, Chinese Historical Society of America, Center for Affirmative Action, and Center for Asian American Media) have received \$26.5 million in state funding for *Edge on the Square*, a contemporary arts and media destination located at 800 Grant Avenue that will house build a cultural entity and inclusion in a manner that opens hearts and changes minds. Passing this ordinance is essential for the cultivation of important cultural spaces for API and the broader BIPOC communities.

Legacy businesses are also supported by amended ordinances by allowing the space that they need to operate. Legacy restaurants and small businesses have struggled during the COVID-19 pandemic with the waves of shutdowns and added pressure of anti-Asian hate that has seen fewer residents visit Asian ethnic enclaves. While the amended ordinances do not alleviate many of the financial pressures that small business owners are experiencing, it does provide legacy restaurants the space that they would need, should they like to move to another space in Chinatown.

CYC strongly supports the proposed ordinance to change small business zoning controls in Chinatown and North Beach, and on Polk Street in order to provide support to allow important philanthropic and social service uses in Chinatown, and to support any legacy restaurants and businesses.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sarah Wan', is written over a horizontal line.

Sarah Wan
Executive Director

Cc: Erica Major
Assistant Clerk, Board of Supervisors
Via Email erica.major@sfgov.org

Mabel Teng
Interim Executive Director, Chinatown Media and Arts Collaborative
Via Email tengmabel@gmail.com

Allan Low
Perkins Coie LLP
Via Email alow@perkinscoie.com

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WEBSITE: www.cycsf.org
EMAIL: cyc@cycsf.org

From: [Peskin, Aaron \(BOS\)](#)
To: [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Fwd: Support Letter Amendments to Chinatown Zoning
Date: Monday, September 20, 2021 1:59:01 PM
Attachments: [Rose Pak Democratic Club - Support Letter Amendment to Planning Code.DOCX](#)

Please include in file

From: Kitty Fong <kitty@rosepakdemclub.org>
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 12:45:22 PM
To: Peskin, Aaron (BOS) <aaron.peskin@sfgov.org>
Subject: Fwd: Support Letter Amendments to Chinatown Zoning

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Sorry Supe Peskin, resending cause the email didn't go through last week.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kitty Fong** <kitty@rosepakdemclub.org>
Date: Fri, Sep 17, 2021 at 6:02 PM
Subject: Support Letter Amendments to Chinatown Zoning
To: <myrna.melgar@sfgov.org>, <aron.peskin@sfgov.org>, <dean.preston@sfgov.org>
Cc: Low, Allan E. (Perkins Coie) <ALow@perkinscoie.com>, Jeremy L <jeremy@rosepakdemclub.org>

Dear Supervisors Melgar, Peskin, and Preston,

The Rose Pak Democratic Club would like to express our support for the proposed amendments to Planning Code Section 121.4 that will preserve and revitalize Chinatown. We'd appreciate the Landuse Committee sending it to the full board with a positive recommendation.

Respectfully,
Kitty Fong
President
Rose Pak Democratic Club



September 16, 2021

Via Email myrna.melgar@sfgov.org

Supervisor Myrna Melgar
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
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Via Email aaron.peskin@sfgov.org

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San Francisco, CA 94102

Via Email dean.preston@sfgov.org

Supervisor Dean Preston
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
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San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Proposed Amendments to Planning Code - Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street
San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 20, 2021

Dear Supervisors Melgar, Peskin, and Preston:

This letter is in support of the proposed amendments to Planning Code Section 121.4 that will preserve and revitalize Chinatown.

We need to protect Chinatown from the encroachment of the Financial District. The amendments to the Planning Code will ensure that neighborhood small businesses will have opportunities in Chinatown. Those small businesses provide essential employment, food, and services to our Chinatown residents.

San Francisco Board of Supervisors
Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 16, 2021

It is also crucial to create new uses for our many commercial spaces in Chinatown. The amendments to the Planning Code will bring opportunities for social services and community organizations to utilize vacant space bringing activity and vital pedestrian traffic to our commercial corridors.

We support the proposed amendments to the Planning Code and urge the San Francisco Board of Supervisors to approve the proposed amendments.

Very Truly Yours,

Rose Pak Democratic Club

cc: Allan E. Low, Esq.
Perkins Coie, LLP
(via email alow@perkinscoie.com)