

From: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
To: [BOS-Supervisors](#); [BOS-Legislative Aides](#)
Cc: [BOS-Operations](#); [Carroll, John \(BOS\)](#); [Calvillo, Angela \(BOS\)](#); [De Asis, Edward \(BOS\)](#); [Entezari, Mehran \(BOS\)](#); [Mchugh, Eileen \(BOS\)](#); [Ng, Wilson \(BOS\)](#); [Somera, Alisa \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: FW: Support for Sidewalk Flower Stand Legislation (File No. 260133) – San Francisco Flower Market
Date: Monday, March 16, 2026 12:20:05 PM

Hello,

Please see below communication regarding **File No. 260133:**

Ordinance amending the Public Works Code to enhance and modify the sidewalk flower stand permit program by, among other things, 1) updating and clarifying the applicable fees, 2) authorizing Public Works to consult with the Office of Small Business to identify and evaluate eligible permit applicants, 3) updating permit application requirements, 4) supplementing permit conditions and restrictions, 5) establishing minimum operating hours of 35 hours per week, 6) requiring permittees to be present at sidewalk flower stands for at least 50% of the applicable hours of operation and to dedicate a minimum of 75% of the sidewalk flower stand for the sale or storage of certain eligible flowers and plants, 7) prohibiting the leasing or sub-leasing of sidewalk flower stands, and 8) prohibiting the sale, assignment, inheritance, or transfer of flower stand permits; amending the Police Code to authorize Public Works to impose, assess, and collect administrative penalties; and affirming the Planning Department’s determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

Regards,

John Bullock
Office of the Clerk of the Board
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
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BOS@sfgov.org | www.sfbos.org

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From: Jeanne Boes <jeanne@sfflowermarket.org>

Sent: Monday, March 16, 2026 10:57 AM

To: Board of Supervisors (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>

Subject: Support for Sidewalk Flower Stand Legislation (File No. 260133) – San Francisco Flower Market

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Flowers make people happier. Science says so, and so does 114 years of history right here in San Francisco.

I am Jeanne Taggart Boes, Executive Director of the San Francisco Flower Market (SFFM) — the largest wholesale flower market in Northern California, one of the last remaining wholesale flower markets in the United States, and a proud San Francisco Legacy Business. I am writing in enthusiastic support of the Sidewalk Flower Stand Permit legislation (File No. 260133).

This city deserves this. San Francisco once had 120 street flower vendors. Today, only a handful remain, the victim of a permit system frozen in place since the 1920s. This legislation fixes that, and we couldn't be more excited.

SFFM has been woven into the fabric of this city since 1912, founded by Italian-American, Japanese-American, and Chinese-American flower growers who rebuilt their community after the 1906 earthquake. We have survived two World Wars, a pandemic, and every twist San Francisco has thrown at us. We just completed a major investment in our future, moving to a new facility at 901 16th Street in Potrero Hill — because we are here to stay. Today we serve over 4,500 registered small businesses and provide employment for over 200 blue-collar workers, many from underrepresented communities in our city.

Every new flower stand is a new small business, and a new customer for SFFM's vendors and the California growers behind them. California produces 76% of all domestically grown cut flowers, and the national floral industry supports over 82,000 jobs, \$38.2 billion in sales, and \$12.5 billion in wages annually, with California home to 35% of the entire U.S. floral workforce. These are hands-on, blue-collar jobs — growers, harvesters, truck drivers, wholesale buyers, skilled florists — the kind of irreplaceable human work that no AI will ever automate away. Every stand we add to San Francisco's streets strengthens that entire chain.

And Here's Something Worth Knowing

Flowers are good for us — not just aesthetically, but scientifically. Research from Rutgers University found that flowers trigger immediate happiness, heighten life satisfaction, and strengthen social bonds. Studies from Harvard, Texas A&M, and the American Society for Horticultural Science show that exposure to flowers reduces stress hormones, lowers anxiety, boosts creativity, and improves mood. In a city navigating housing issues, mental health challenges, and post-pandemic recovery,

putting more flowers on our streets isn't just charming — it's a genuine public health good.

San Francisco has always been a city that embraces beauty, community, and bold ideas. This legislation is all three. We urge the full Board to support it wholeheartedly, and we at SFFM stand ready to welcome the next generation of San Francisco florists through our doors.

With great enthusiasm and respect,

Jeanne Taggart Boes
Executive Director
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From: [Michael Nulty](#)
To: [Carroll, John \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [MelgarStaff \(BOS\)](#); [ChenStaff](#); [MahmoodStaff](#)
Subject: BOS File 260133 - Sidewalk Flower Stand Permits - Support
Date: Sunday, March 1, 2026 9:38:55 PM

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The Alliance for a Better District 6
PO Box 420782
San Francisco, CA 94142

March 1, 2026

Board of Supervisors
City and County of San Francisco
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors,

On behalf of the Alliance for a Better District 6, we write in strong support of **Board of Supervisors File 260133**, the ordinance to modernize the sidewalk flower stand permit program in downtown San Francisco.

As an organization dedicated to improving the quality of urban life in District 6—San Francisco's vibrant downtown core—we have long advocated for policies that empower small businesses, activate underused public spaces, and enhance the pedestrian experience in our neighborhood. The historic sidewalk flower stands, once iconic features along streets like Market, Powell, and near Union Square, have unfortunately sat vacant in recent years, contributing to a diminished sense of vitality and reduced foot traffic in an area that thrives on small-scale commerce and visual appeal.

We strongly endorse the proposed updates to the Public Works Code, including clarifying and lowering permit fees to create a truly low barrier to entry, simplifying the application process, expanding eligibility to allow new operators (beyond family inheritance), and establishing clear operating requirements to ensure active use for selling flowers and plants. By authorizing the Office of Small Business to assist in identifying and evaluating eligible applicants, while prohibiting the leasing or transfer of permits to prevent speculation, this legislation provides a balanced, practical pathway for more small business owners to enter the market and revive these locations.

The Small Business Commission has already voted to support this measure (four aye votes), affirming that a streamlined, accessible permit process will encourage greater

activation of the stands, support entrepreneurial opportunities, and bring renewed color, fragrance, and energy to our streets. In District 6, where small businesses are essential to economic recovery and community character, this low-cost initiative represents an important step toward fostering more diverse small business ownership and helping downtown reclaim its lively, welcoming atmosphere.

We urge the Board to pass File 260133 without delay. Revitalizing these flower stands will deliver tangible benefits for residents, visitors, and aspiring entrepreneurs alike, aligning directly with our mission to build a stronger, more dynamic District 6.

Thank you for your leadership in supporting small businesses and enhancing our urban environment. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or would like to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

Michael Nulty

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