

1 [Police Code - Tenderloin and South of Market Retail Hours Restriction Pilot Program]

2

3 **Ordinance amending the Police Code to expand the current Tenderloin retail hours**
 4 **restriction pilot program, under which retail food and tobacco establishments in the**
 5 **restricted area are prohibited from being open to the public from 12:00 a.m. to 5:00**
 6 **a.m., or from 2:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m. if subject to regulation by the California Department**
 7 **of Alcoholic Beverage Control, to encompass a high-crime area across the Tenderloin**
 8 **and South of Market neighborhoods; and to extend the duration of the pilot program,**
 9 **currently set to expire in July 2026, to instead expire 18 months from the effective date**
 10 **of this Ordinance.**

11 NOTE: **Unchanged Code text and uncodified text** are in plain Arial font.
 12 **Additions to Codes** are in *single-underline italics Times New Roman font*.
 13 **Deletions to Codes** are in *strikethrough italics Times New Roman font*.
 14 **Board amendment additions** are in double-underlined Arial font.
 15 **Board amendment deletions** are in ~~strikethrough Arial font~~.
 16 **Asterisks (* * * *)** indicate the omission of unchanged Code
 17 subsections or parts of tables.

18 Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

19 Section 1. Article 58 of the Police Code is hereby amended by revising Sections 5800,
 20 5801, 5802, 5809, 5812, and 5813, to read as follows:

21 **SEC. 5800. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

22 (a) There is ~~an worsening~~ epidemic of opioid addiction and use in San Francisco, as
 23 in other major U.S. cities.

24 (b) San Francisco's Tenderloin police district (the "Tenderloin") and Southern police
 25 district (which includes the South of Market neighborhood) ~~have some of~~ the City's highest rates
 of drug-related crime, including narcotics offenses and gun-related crimes frequently

1 connected with drug offenses. The Tenderloin is ~~also~~ home to a high density of low- and
2 middle-income families, including many families with children. The South of Market
3 neighborhood, which contains a mix of residential, commercial, hospitality, and entertainment uses
4 that generate late-night pedestrian and vehicle activity, features a Sixth Street corridor that is among
5 the highest-profile vehicular entry points to downtown San Francisco from Interstate 280.

6 (c) The high rate of drug-related crime in the Tenderloin and South of Market leads
7 individuals and families that live, work, and attend school in the ~~neighborhood~~area to believe
8 they face health and safety risks, including exposure to drugs, needles, human waste,
9 uncontained refuse, and other hazardous materials that are left on sidewalks and streets.
10 People who live, work, and attend school in the ~~neighborhood~~area have also expressed fear
11 about exposure to drug sales and use, gunshots, physical assault, ~~and~~ intimidation by
12 individuals or groups engaged in illegal activity, and property crimes such as theft and
13 damage to storefronts and vehicles.

14 (d) The prevalence of drug sales and use in the Tenderloin and South of Market
15 prompted the City to launch the Drug Market Agency Coordinated Command, led by the
16 Police Department, to coordinate City, state, and federal resources to abate drug sales and
17 use, and related criminal conduct, in the Tenderloin and South of Market.

18 (e) Outdoor, public drug sales and use in the Tenderloin and South of Market are
19 common and cause particularly acute public health and safety risks late at night (including in
20 the very early hours of the morning), when large groups gather in lighted areas adjacent to
21 open retail food and tobacco businesses to engage in drug sales and use.

22 (f) Large gatherings of people engaged in drug sales and use are particularly
23 prevalent in the area of the Tenderloin and South of Market that is bounded by the following street
24 segments, inclusive of properties abutting both sides of the streets: South Van Ness Avenue between
25 Market Street and Thirteenth Street, Thirteenth Street between South Van Ness Avenue and Folsom

1 Street, Folsom Street between Thirteenth Street and Third Street, Third Street between Folsom Street
2 and Market Street, Market Street between Third Street and Powell Street, Powell Street between
3 Market Street and Geary Street, Geary Street between Powell Street and Polk Street, Polk Street
4 between Geary Street and McAllister Street, McAllister Street between Polk Street and Larkin Street,
5 Larkin Street between McAllister Street and Market Street, and Market Street between Ninth Street and
6 Van Ness Avenue (an area referred to in this Article 58 as the “Tenderloin and South of Market Public
7 Safety Area”).~~bounded to the north by O’Farrell Street, to the south by McAllister Street, to the east by~~
8 ~~Jones Street, and to the west by Polk Street (an area referred to in this Article 58 as the “Tenderloin~~
9 ~~Public Safety Area”).~~ A diagram of the approximate boundaries of the Tenderloin and South of Market
10 Public Safety Area is provided in the Police Department report on file with the Clerk of the Board of
11 Supervisors in File No. 251251. The Police Department has analyzed ~~2023~~2025 incident reports
12 for narcotics crimes and other crimes frequently connected with drug activity in the Tenderloin
13 and South of Market, and determined that a relatively high concentration of these incidents
14 between the hours of 12:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. were reported in the Tenderloin and South of
15 Market Public Safety Area. The Police Department previously analyzed similar data from 2023
16 incident reports and found a high concentration of such incidents in the Tenderloin. The Police
17 Department has also observed that, as compared with similar-sized areas in the City, ~~including~~
18 ~~other areas in the Tenderloin,~~ the Tenderloin and South of Market Public Safety Area has the
19 highest concentration of large groups engaged in drug sales and use in public, outdoor
20 spaces during late night (which includes very early morning) hours.

21 (g) Large groups of people engaged in drug sales and use in the Tenderloin and
22 South of Market Public Safety Area generally form and congregate in the vicinity of retail
23 businesses selling food and tobacco products that are open to the public during those hours.
24 By being open so late, these retail food and tobacco establishments in effect facilitate the late
25 nighttime drug market by providing a lighted gathering point for drug users_s and dealers, by

1 enabling drug user and dealers to take cover indoors to avoid police patrols, and, in some
2 cases, by selling tobacco, tobacco paraphernalia, and other retail goods used by people
3 engaged in drug use and sales.

4 (h) The Police Department compared 2025 data regarding narcotics offenses and other
5 serious crimes often connected with narcotics – including homicide, rape, robbery, assaults, and
6 shootings – that occurred between 12:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. in the Tenderloin and South of Market
7 Public Safety Area with the same data from an area around the Chinatown and North Beach
8 neighborhoods. The selected section of the Chinatown and North Beach neighborhood is equivalent to
9 the Tenderloin and South of Market Public Safety Area in size and in its combination of commercial
10 and residential uses, but in contrast to the Tenderloin and South of Market Public Safety Area, the
11 Chinatown and North Beach area has fewer food and tobacco businesses open to the public late at
12 night. The Police Department found that the rate of serious crime between 12:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m.
13 was significantly higher in the Tenderloin and South of Market Public Safety Area than in the
14 Chinatown and North Beach area: Approximately 211 incidents of serious crime occurred in the
15 Tenderloin and South of Market Public Safety Area between 12:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. during 2025, as
16 compared with approximately 27 such incidents in the targeted Chinatown and North Beach area.

17 (i) The Police Department previously compared 2023 data regarding narcotics offenses
18 and other serious crimes often connected with narcotics – including homicide, rape, robbery,
19 assaults, and shootings – that occurred between 12:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. in the Tenderloin
20 Public Safety Area with the same data from an area around Portsmouth Square in Chinatown.
21 The selected Portsmouth Square area is equivalent to the Tenderloin Public Safety Area in
22 size and in its combination of commercial and residential uses, but in contrast to the
23 Tenderloin Public Safety Area, the Portsmouth Square area has few or no retail food and
24 tobacco businesses open to the public late at night. The Police Department found that the rate
25 of serious crime between 12:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. was significantly higher in the Tenderloin

1 Public Safety Area than in the Portsmouth Square area: Approximately 190 incidents of
2 serious crime occurred in the Tenderloin Public Safety Area between 12:00 a.m. and 5:00
3 a.m. during 2023, as compared with approximately 30 such incidents in the targeted
4 Portsmouth Square area.

5 (i) The gatherings of large groups engaged in drug activity late at night in the
6 Tenderloin and South of Market Public Safety Area present particular health and safety risks
7 and give rise to feelings of insecurity and fear on the part of local residents. The large groups
8 contribute to property crimes and violent crime in the area. They leave large amounts of
9 debris on the streets and sidewalks, creating unsanitary conditions. Residents living closest to
10 congregation points for these groups, especially seniors and families with children, have
11 expressed that they are so anxious about the hostile conditions they encounter on
12 neighborhood sidewalks that they feel fearful to walk outdoors during the nighttime and early
13 morning hours, when they are likely to encounter these groups engaged in drug-related
14 activity and the debris generated by the groups. Residents must move past and through these
15 large crowds in order to access or leave their homes; they describe feeling threatened and
16 unsafe.

17 (j) Large groups engaged in drug use and sales late at night also present serious
18 challenges to effective law enforcement. Large groups are difficult for the police to control and
19 pose safety risks for officers, as the people engaged in illegal activity typically outnumber
20 police officers on patrol. It is more difficult for police officers to observe and document
21 behavior by individuals that would establish the reasonable suspicion or probable cause
22 required for officers to initiate enforcement actions when individuals engaged in criminal
23 conduct are embedded in a large crowd. Individuals are easily lost or concealed in a crowd,
24 particularly when the crowd is comprised of many people engaging in illegal activity. And
25 proximity to open retail businesses enables individuals engaged in criminal activity to take

1 cover inside the open retail business when a police patrol appears.

2 (l) In August 2024, following adoption of the ordinances in Board File Nos. 240407 and
3 240696, the City implemented a two-year pilot program restricting the operating hours of retail food
4 and tobacco establishments in a defined area of the Tenderloin, referred to as the “Tenderloin Public
5 Safety Area,” to address late-night conditions associated with drug activity and related crime in a
6 section of the Tenderloin.

7 (m) Since implementing the pilot, the Police Department has reported improvements in
8 public safety and neighborhood conditions within the Tenderloin Public Safety Area.

9 (n) A six-month evaluation submitted to the Board of Supervisors showed a 13 percent
10 reduction in distinct late-night (12:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m.) violent crime and narcotics incidents within
11 the Tenderloin Police District, a 14 percent reduction in violent crime and narcotics incidents within
12 the Tenderloin Public Safety Area specifically, a 17.9 percent overall decline in calls for service
13 between 12:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. in the Tenderloin Public Safety Area (including a 43.6 percent
14 decline in officer-initiated calls during late-night hours), and a reduction in visible late-night street
15 gatherings near formerly open retailers, documented by the Police Department in photographs and
16 incident reports. These data indicate the pilot program is achieving its purpose of reducing late-night
17 open-air drug markets, decreasing violent and property crime, and improving neighborhood livability.

18 (o) The Police Department has identified persistent late-night outdoor drug activity and
19 congregation in portions of the South of Market neighborhood, particularly near late-night retailers
20 and in areas with nightlife, transit, and hospitality uses, generating public health and safety concerns
21 similar to those observed in the Tenderloin Public Safety Area. Residents, workers, and visitors in these
22 portions of South of Market have reported exposure to drug use, discarded drug paraphernalia, and
23 property crime associated with this late-night congregation of people, leading to heightened feelings of
24 insecurity during nighttime and early-morning hours. The Tenderloin and South of Market Public
25 Safety Area established in this Article represents an expansion of the Tenderloin Public Safety Area,

1 based upon the Police Department’s determination that similar late-night conditions exist in adjacent
2 portions of South of Market that warrant South of Market’s inclusion in this pilot program.

3 (p) Because retail hour limits in the Tenderloin Public Safety Area have been effective in
4 improving public health and safety in that area, broadening the pilot program to the Tenderloin and
5 South of Market Public Safety Area is likely to yield similar benefits, given the similar problems
6 occurring there.

7 (kq) The Office of the Mayor and the Police Department assert that barring retail
8 food and tobacco establishments from being open to the public between 12:00 a.m. and 5:00
9 a.m. is likely to yield public safety gains for local residents and visitors. Eliminating the
10 nighttime safety problems is likely to increase the overall vibrancy of the Tenderloin and South
11 of Market, which could yield economic benefits to businesses impacted by the restriction on
12 hours of operation.

13 ~~—(l) In spite of the Department of Health’s 2022 Overdose Prevention Plan, which committed~~
14 ~~to open multiple “Wellness Hubs” across San Francisco in various impacted neighborhoods to reach~~
15 ~~people who use drugs, provide overdose prevention services, and ultimately help improve street~~
16 ~~conditions in San Francisco, the City has not operated any such sites since the closure of the~~
17 ~~Tenderloin Center, in December 2022.~~

18 ~~—(m) Some businesses in the Tenderloin Public Safety Area, as of June 2024, have an active~~
19 ~~liquor license from the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC), and are already~~
20 ~~highly regulated, required to close by 2:00 a.m., and required to adhere to strict operating standards~~
21 ~~as a condition of their license.~~

22 (nr) The Office of the Mayor and the Police Department assert that the requirements
23 imposed in this Article 58 are likely to improve public safety in the Tenderloin and South of
24 Market. This pilot program, prohibiting for ~~two years~~ 18 months retail food and tobacco
25 establishments in the Tenderloin and South of Market Public Safety Area from being open to

1 the public between 12:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m., or between 2:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. if they are
2 ABC Licensees, will enable the Police Department and certain other City departments to
3 evaluate the effectiveness of this restriction in improving public safety in the Tenderloin and
4 South of Market. This will inform the judgment of the Police Department and policymakers as to
5 next steps to take to maintain public safety in the Tenderloin and South of Market.

6 (e~~s~~) While the restrictions in Article 58 ~~may affect some businesses and~~ may result in
7 some level of hardship for ~~those~~certain businesses, the City, in reliance upon the judgment of
8 the Police Department, has determined that the potential benefits of these restrictions
9 outweigh the potential harms, as the restrictions are attempting to address the urgent needs
10 and conditions that exist in the Tenderloin and South of Market Public Safety Area.

11 ~~(p) To ensure positive investment in the community during the pilot program, the City should~~
12 ~~ensure that community ambassadors, enhanced regular street and sidewalk cleaning, and trash pickup~~
13 ~~are prioritized within the Tenderloin Public Safety Area.~~

14 (e~~t~~) This Article 58 is not intended to limit the enforcement of other laws and
15 regulations by City departments, including but not limited to the City Attorney, Department of
16 Public Health, Police Department, and Sheriff's Office, to address the conditions noted herein,
17 and any state or federal agencies and regulators with jurisdiction to address matters that arise
18 within the Tenderloin and South of Market Public Safety Area.

19 (e~~u~~) The Board of Supervisors urges the Office of the Mayor, the Police Department,
20 and other City departments, as applicable, to continue to undertake enforcement efforts
21 during this pilot program against businesses that are engaged in conduct that is already
22 illegal, including illegal onsite gambling, fraud, and health and safety violations.

23 **SEC. 5801. DEFINITIONS.**

24 For purposes of this Article 58, the following terms shall have the following definitions:

25 "ABC" shall mean the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control.

1 "ABC Licensee" shall mean a Retail Establishment that holds an active license from
2 the ABC to sell liquor.

3 "City" shall mean the City and County of San Francisco.

4 "Director" shall mean the Director of the Department of Public Health, or the
5 Director's designee.

6 "DPH" shall mean the Department of Public Health.

7 "OEWD" shall mean the Office of Economic and Workforce Development.

8 "Restricted Hours" shall mean the period between 2:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m., seven
9 days a week, and including holidays for ABC Licensees, and between 12:00 a.m. and 5:00
10 a.m. for Retail Establishments that do not hold an ABC License.

11 "Retail Establishment" shall mean any business in the Tenderloin and South of Market
12 Public Safety Area that operates as either or both of the following: 1) a market that sells any
13 ~~prepackaged~~ food items and/or produce, including but not limited to any establishment that has
14 or qualifies for a permit from the Department of Public Health to operate as a Food Product
15 and Marketing Establishment, as defined in Section 440 of the Health Code; and/or 2) an
16 establishment that sells any Tobacco Product, as defined in Section 19H.2 of the Health
17 Code.

18 "Tenderloin and South of Market Public Safety Area" shall mean the area of the City
19 bounded by the following street segments, inclusive of properties abutting both sides of the streets:
20 South Van Ness Avenue between Market Street and Thirteenth Street, Thirteenth Street between South
21 Van Ness Avenue and Folsom Street, Folsom Street between Thirteenth Street and Third Street, Third
22 Street between Folsom Street and Market Street, Market Street between Third Street and Powell Street,
23 Powell Street between Market Street and Geary Street, Geary Street between Powell Street and Polk
24 Street, Polk Street between Geary Street and McAllister Street, McAllister Street between Polk Street
25 and Larkin Street, Larkin Street between McAllister Street and Market Street, and Market Street

1 ~~between Ninth Street and Van Ness Avenue to the north by O'Farrell Street, to the south by McAllister~~
2 ~~Street, to the east by Jones Street, and to the west by Polk Street, including both sides of the boundary~~
3 ~~streets.~~

4 **SEC. 5802. ~~ESTABLISHMENT OF TWO-YEAR~~ 18-MONTH PILOT PROGRAM TO**
5 **PROHIBIT OPERATION OF RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE TENDERLOIN AND**
6 **SOUTH OF MARKET PUBLIC SAFETY AREA DURING RESTRICTED HOURS.**

7 (a) For an 18-month ~~two-year~~ period beginning on the effective date of ~~this Article~~
8 ~~58~~ the ordinance in Board File No. 251251, no Retail Establishment ~~as defined in section 5801~~ that
9 is located in the Tenderloin and South of Market Public Safety Area may be open to the public
10 during applicable Restricted Hours.

11 (b) At least 15 days prior to the start of the pilot program, ~~DPH and~~ OEWD shall
12 contact all Retail Establishments (including ABC Licensees) to explain the new restrictions
13 and restricted hours. Such contact shall be conducted in the appropriate language to ensure
14 that the operator of the establishment is able to understand the new restrictions. ~~In addition,~~
15 ~~OEWD shall create a way for businesses in the Tenderloin Public Safety Area to provide feedback to~~
16 ~~the City regarding the pilot program, its enforcement, and its effects.~~

17 **SEC. 5809. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

18 No later than six months after the effective date of the ordinance in Board File No. 251251, the
19 Police Department ~~Six months following the start of this pilot program, the Drug Market Agency~~
20 ~~Coordination Center ("DMACC")~~ shall submit a report to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors,
21 along with a proposed resolution accepting the report. The report shall outline progress made
22 to address conditions in the Tenderloin and South of Market Public Safety Area, including
23 enforcement under Article 58 and other City-led enforcement actions related to addressing the
24 conditions noted in Section 5800, including any relevant updates from ~~DMACC~~, the City
25 Attorney, DPH, the Police Department, the Sheriff and any other entities working with the City.

1 While the report may include other details as departments see fit to include, the report shall at
2 minimum include information about how crime patterns and statistics have changed in the
3 Tenderloin and South of Market Public Safety Area since the enactment of the expanded pilot
4 covering the Tenderloin and South of Market Public Safety Area, including the number of
5 enforcement actions under Article 58, other related enforcement actions in the Tenderloin and
6 South of Market Public Safety Area, and reported calls for service during early morning hours
7 throughout the duration of the pilot program.

8 The report shall also include updates from OEWD about outreach efforts and any
9 other programs designed to help businesses within the Tenderloin and South of Market Public
10 Safety Area and an overview of feedback from businesses regarding the effects of the pilot
11 program.

12 A hearing shall be held on the matter by the Board of Supervisors or one of its
13 committees.

14 * * * *

15 **SEC. 5812. SEVERABILITY.**

16 If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this
17 ~~ordinance~~ Article 58, or any application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held to be
18 invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision
19 shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions or applications of the ordinance. The
20 Board of Supervisors hereby declares that it would have ~~passed~~ adopted this ~~ordinance~~ Article 58
21 and each and every section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, and word not declared
22 invalid or unconstitutional without regard to whether any other portion of this ~~ordinance~~
23 Article 58 or application thereof would be subsequently declared invalid or unconstitutional.

24 **SEC. 5813. EXPIRATION ~~REMOVAL FROM CODE~~.**

25 This Article 58 shall expire by operation of law 18 months after the effective date of the

1 ordinance in Board File No 251251. Upon its expiration, At or after two years from the effective date
2 of this ordinance, the City Attorney is authorized to cause this Article 58 to be removed from the
3 Administrative Police Code unless it has been re-enacted or extended by ordinance.

4
5 Section 2. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective 30 days after
6 enactment. Enactment occurs when the Mayor signs the ordinance, the Mayor returns the
7 ordinance unsigned or does not sign the ordinance within ten days of receiving it, or the Board
8 of Supervisors overrides the Mayor's veto of the ordinance.

9
10 APPROVED AS TO FORM:
11 DAVID CHIU, City Attorney

12 By: /s/ Sarah Crowley
13 SARAH CROWLEY
14 Deputy City Attorney

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LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Police Code - Tenderloin and South of Market Retail Hours Restriction Pilot Program]

Ordinance amending the Police Code to expand the current Tenderloin retail hours restriction pilot program, under which retail food and tobacco establishments in the restricted area are prohibited from being open to the public from 12:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m., or from 2:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m. if subject to regulation by the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, to encompass a high-crime area across the Tenderloin and South of Market neighborhoods; and to extend the duration of the pilot program, currently set to expire in July 2026, to instead expire 18 months from the effective date of this Ordinance.

Existing Law

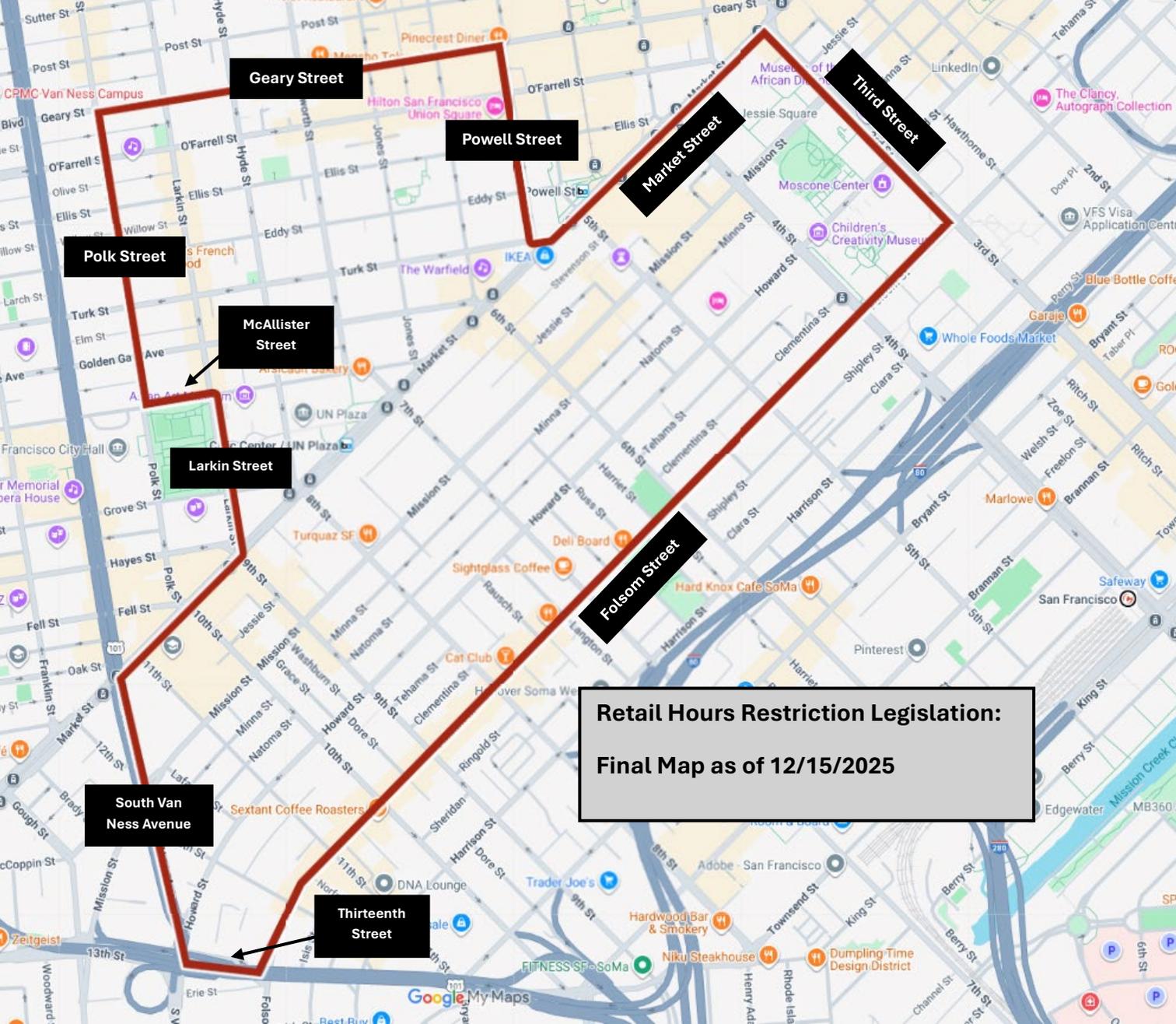
Current law has established a two-year pilot program, set to expire in July 2026, under which retail food and tobacco establishments in a high-crime section of the Tenderloin police district are prohibited from being open to the public between the hours of 12:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m., or for those establishments regulated by the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, between 2:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. Violators may be subject to administrative fines of up to \$1,000 per violation, in addition to civil penalties and attorneys' fees and costs.

Amendments to Current Law

This ordinance would expand the current pilot program to encompass an area labeled the "Tenderloin and South of Market Public Safety Area," including the original area and some additional areas in the Tenderloin and South of Market neighborhoods, and would extend the duration of the pilot program through 18 months from the effective date of this ordinance. The ordinance would require that the Police Department submit a progress report to the Board of Supervisors six months after the effective date of this ordinance.

Background Information

The Police Department has documented through crime data, photographs, and patrol officers' observations that large groups of people engaged in illicit drug sales and use congregate close to open food markets and tobacco establishments in the late night and early morning hours in the Tenderloin and South of Market Public Safety Area. The Police Department has documented that these late-night gatherings contribute to increased criminal activity, impede law enforcement operations, leave behind significant debris and unsanitary waste, and lead neighborhood residents to feel unsafe. Police Department data supports that the current pilot has been effective in reducing crime in the covered area, but that the problems continue, and are increasingly spread across the larger area encompassed by the Tenderloin and South of Market Public Safety Area.



Geary Street

Powell Street

Market Street

Third Street

Polk Street

McAllister Street

Larkin Street

Folsom Street

**South Van
Ness Avenue**

**Thirteenth
Street**

**Retail Hours Restriction Legislation:
Final Map as of 12/15/2025**

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco 94102-4689
Tel. No. (415) 554-5184
Fax No. (415) 554-5163
TDD/TTY No. (415) 554-5227

MEMORANDUM

TO: Derrick Lew, Police Chief, Police Department
Anne Taupier, Executive Director, Office of Economic and Workforce
Development

FROM: Monique Crayton, Assistant Clerk, Public Safety and Neighborhood
Services Committee, Board of Supervisors

DATE: December 23, 2025

SUBJECT: LEGISLATION INTRODUCED

The Board of Supervisors' Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee has received the following ordinance request, introduced on December 16, 2025:

File No. 251251

[Police Code - Tenderloin and South of Market Retail Hours Restriction Pilot Program]

Ordinance amending the Police Code to expand the current Tenderloin retail hours restriction pilot program, under which retail food and tobacco establishments in the restricted area are prohibited from being open to the public from 12:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m., or from 2:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m. if subject to regulation by the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, to encompass a high-crime area across the Tenderloin and South of Market neighborhoods; and to extend the duration of the pilot program, currently set to expire in July 2026, to instead expire 18 months from the effective date of this Ordinance.

If you have any comments or reports to be included with the file, please forward them to me at the Board of Supervisors, City Hall, Room 244, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102.

CC:
Office of Chair Dorsey
Steven Lopez, Police Department
Sgt Stacy Youngblood, Police Department
Carl Nicita, Police Department
Giannina Miranda, Police Department
Brandon Erickson (ALU), Police Department
Alesandra Lozano, Office of Economic and Workforce Development

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



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San Francisco 94102-4689
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Katy Tang, Director
Small Business Commission, City Hall, Room 448

FROM: Monique Crayton, Assistant Clerk, Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee, Board of Supervisors

DATE: December 23, 2025

SUBJECT: REFERRAL FROM BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee

The Board of Supervisors' Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee has received the following legislation, which is being referred to the Small Business Commission for comment and recommendation. The Commission may provide any response it deems appropriate within 12 days from the date of this referral.

File No. 251251 Police Code - Tenderloin and South of Market Retail Hours Restriction Pilot Program

Ordinance amending the Police Code to expand the current Tenderloin retail hours restriction pilot program, under which retail food and tobacco establishments in the restricted area are prohibited from being open to the public from 12:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m., or from 2:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m. if subject to regulation by the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, to encompass a high-crime area across the Tenderloin and South of Market neighborhoods; and to extend the duration of the pilot program, currently set to expire in July 2026, to instead expire 18 months from the effective date of this Ordinance.

Please return this cover sheet with the Commission's response to me at the Board of Supervisors, City Hall, Room 244, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, California 94102.

RESPONSE FROM SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSION - Date: _____

- No Comment**
- Recommendation Attached**

Chairperson, Small Business Commission

CC:
Office of Chair Dorsey

From: [Mohammad Azab](#)
To: [Crayton, Monique \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Comment in support of proposed convenience store regulation
Date: Wednesday, January 14, 2026 8:45:52 AM

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

Dear Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee,

As a local stakeholder, I am writing to express my full support for the legislation co-sponsored by District 5 Supervisor Bilal Mahmood and District 6 Supervisor Matt Dorsey. The proposal to extend regulations for convenience store hours for an additional 18 months, and with expanded boundaries, is essential. The existing legislation has already demonstrated its effectiveness in reducing crime and enhancing public safety, and I urge the Committee to approve this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mohammad Azab
1160 Mission Street resident

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Joselyn Zepeda](#)
To: [Crayton, Monique \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Comment in support of proposed convenience store regulation
Date: Wednesday, January 14, 2026 8:48:25 AM

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

Dear Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee,

As a local stakeholder, I am writing to express my full support for the legislation co-sponsored by District 5 Supervisor Bilal Mahmood and District 6 Supervisor Matt Dorsey. The proposal to extend regulations for convenience store hours for an additional 18 months, and with expanded boundaries, is essential. The existing legislation has already demonstrated its effectiveness in reducing crime and enhancing public safety, and I urge the Committee to approve this legislation.

Sincerely,
Joselyn Zepeda

From: [H. Gregory](#)
To: [Crayton, Monique \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Comment in support of proposed convenience store regulation
Date: Wednesday, January 14, 2026 9:01:58 AM

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

Dear Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee,

As a local stakeholder, I am writing to express my full support for the legislation co-sponsored by District 5 Supervisor Bilal Mahmood and District 6 Supervisor Matt Dorsey. The proposal to extend regulations for convenience store hours for an additional 18 months, and with expanded boundaries, is essential. The existing legislation has already demonstrated its effectiveness in reducing crime and enhancing public safety, and I urge the Committee to approve this legislation.

Sincerely,
H. Gregory
1160 Mission Street

From: [Wilbur Yu](#)
To: [Crayton, Monique \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Comment in support of proposed convenience store regulation
Date: Wednesday, January 14, 2026 11:08:19 AM

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Dear Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee,

As a local stakeholder, I am writing to express my full support for the legislation co-sponsored by District 5 Supervisor Bilal Mahmood and District 6 Supervisor Matt Dorsey. The proposal to extend regulations for convenience store hours for an additional 18 months, and with expanded boundaries, is essential. The existing legislation has already demonstrated its effectiveness in reducing crime and enhancing public safety, and I urge the Committee to approve this legislation.

Sincerely,
Wilbur Yu
2 Mint Plz #406, San Francisco, CA 94103

From: [Steve Const](#)
To: [Crayton, Monique \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Comment in support of proposed convenience store regulation
Date: Wednesday, January 14, 2026 4:31:17 PM

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Dear Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee,

As a local stakeholder, I am writing to express my full support for the legislation co-sponsored by District 5 Supervisor Bilal Mahmood and District 6 Supervisor Matt Dorsey. The proposal to extend regulations for convenience store hours for an additional 18 months, and with expanded boundaries, is essential. The existing legislation has already demonstrated its effectiveness in reducing crime and enhancing public safety, and I urge the Committee to approve this legislation.

Sincerely,

Steve Const
Director of Operations



170 Clara Street
San Francisco, CA 94107
Direct: 415-501-0972
Mobile: 415-299-0836

From: [Tom Perrault](#)
To: [Crayton, Monique \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Comment in support of proposed convenience store regulation
Date: Wednesday, January 14, 2026 7:43:37 PM

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

Dear Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee,

As a local stakeholder, I am writing to express my full support for the legislation co-sponsored by District 5 Supervisor Bilal Mahmood and District 6 Supervisor Matt Dorsey.

The proposal to extend regulations for convenience store hours for an additional 18 months, and with expanded boundaries, is essential. The existing legislation has already demonstrated its effectiveness in reducing crime and enhancing public safety, and I urge the Committee to approve this legislation.

Sincerely,

Tom Perrault
6 Mint Plaza, San Francisco, CA 94103

From: [Jane N Day](#)
To: [Crayton, Monique \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Comment in support of proposed convenience store regulation
Date: Wednesday, January 14, 2026 9:49:26 PM

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

Dear Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee,

As a local resident of 6th Street, I am writing to express my full support for the legislation co-sponsored by District 5 Supervisor Bilal Mahmood and District 6 Supervisor Matt Dorsey. The proposal to extend regulations for convenience store hours for an additional 18 months, and with expanded boundaries, is essential. The existing legislation has already demonstrated its effectiveness in reducing crime and enhancing public safety, and I urge the Committee to approve this legislation.

I would like to see the store owners partially compensated for their loss of income, given that when they purchased their stores they would have reasonably expected that they could be open 24 x 7.

Sincerely,
Jane Day



January 16, 2025

Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
1 Dr Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco CA 94102

TO: Monique Crayton, Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee

CC: Chair Dorsey, Supervisor Mahmood, Supervisor Wong

RE: Support for Tenderloin and South of Market Retail Hours Restriction Pilot Program, Agenda Item 251251

Dear Supervisors,

On behalf of many residents, working people, and business owners in the Mid-Market community, we express our strong support for the proposed legislation expanding the overnight hours restriction for certain retail establishments in the Tenderloin and South of Market Public Safety Area.

Over the past couple of years, we have seen significant progress in the Tenderloin addressing the impacts of open-air drug dealing and related criminal behavior due to the concerted efforts of various city departments and neighborhood organizations particularly SFPD, Urban Alchemy, and other partners. However, there is still a lot of work to do. The adoption of the Tenderloin Retail Hours Restriction Program was a positive addition to these efforts in the pilot area.

However, the Mid-Market and SOMA area saw an increase in new retail businesses supporting anti-social behavior in the overnight hours. Unfortunately, some of these shops became gathering points for users and dealers engaging in illegal vending, gambling, drug use, and drug sales until the early hours of the morning. We do not make this recommendation lightly as we are committed to supporting businesses and economic activity in the area.

We strongly believe this should be expanded to include Mid-Market and SOMA to mitigate the surge of illicit activity in our neighborhoods at night.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fernando Dorsey', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

The Mid-Market Business Association
32 7th Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

From: [Jane Weil](#)
To: [Crayton, Monique \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Comment in support of proposed convenience store regulation
Date: Saturday, January 17, 2026 7:03:30 PM

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

Dear Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee,

As a local stakeholder, I am writing to express my full support for the legislation co-sponsored by District 5 Supervisor Bilal Mahmood and District 6 Supervisor Matt Dorsey. The proposal to extend regulations for convenience store hours for an additional 18 months, and with expanded boundaries, is essential. The existing legislation has already demonstrated its effectiveness in reducing crime and enhancing public safety, and I urge the Committee to approve this legislation.

Sincerely,

Jane Weil

1160 Mission St #2108

SF CA 94103

From: [Jane Weil](#)
To: [Crayton, Monique \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Comment in support of proposed convenience store regulation
Date: Saturday, January 17, 2026 7:04:03 PM

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

Dear Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee,

As a local stakeholder, I am writing to express my full support for the legislation co-sponsored by District 5 Supervisor Bilal Mahmood and District 6 Supervisor Matt Dorsey. The proposal to extend regulations for convenience store hours for an additional 18 months, and with expanded boundaries, is essential. The existing legislation has already demonstrated its effectiveness in reducing crime and enhancing public safety, and I urge the Committee to approve this legislation.

Sincerely,
Richard Fink

1160 Mission St

94103

From: [Bailard, Rhiannon](#)
To: [Crayton, Monique \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Safety Committee Comment, January 22, Agenda Item No. 2 -- Store Hours
Date: Tuesday, January 20, 2026 3:09:47 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)

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

Dear Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee:

On behalf of UC Law SF, I am writing to express our support for the legislation co-sponsored by District 5 Supervisor Bilal Mahmood and District 6 Supervisor Matt Dorsey. The proposal to extend regulations for convenience store hours for an additional 18 months, and with expanded boundaries, is essential.

The existing legislation has already demonstrated its effectiveness in reducing crime and enhancing public safety in the Tenderloin. It is critical that we support the efforts of the City to address the drug dealing and use epidemic with every tool available. And, this is a tool that has reduced large gatherings, which in turn increases safety by reducing crime and violence.

I urge the Committee to approve this legislation.

Thank you,

Rhiannon Bailard | Chief Operating Officer
bailardrhiannon@uclawsf.edu | (415) 581-8858 | www.uclawsf.edu

University of California
LAW
SAN FRANCISCO

I am in support of legislation to prohibit convenience store hours of operation between 12 am midnight and 5am, with businesses regulated by the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control able to stay open until 2am, expanding the original Tenderloin pilot area and adding Mid Market and South of Market.

The initial pilot program has been credited with reducing crime, as the support materials note: "A six-month evaluation submitted to the Board of Supervisors [by SFPD] showed a 13% reduction in distinct late-night (12am-5am) violent crime and narcotics incidents... a 17.9% overall decline in calls for service between 12am-5am... (including a 43.6 percent decline in officer-initiated calls during late-night hours), and a reduction in visible late-night street gatherings near formerly open retailers, documented by the Police Department in photographs and incident reports. This data indicates the pilot program is achieving its purpose of reducing late-night open-air drug markets, decreasing violent and property crime, and improving neighborhood livability.

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mid market community benefit district

Mid Market Community Benefit District is a **privately-funded** 501c3 not-for-profit organization that works in tandem with City agencies to enhance the Mid Market public realm.

April 21, 2025

San Francisco Board of Supervisors
Attention: Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco CA 94102

RE: Continued support for Tenderloin Retail Hours Restriction Pilot Program

Dear Supervisors:

Mid Market Community Benefit District supports the legislation disallowing convenience stores in designated areas to operate between midnight and 5am. We also hope the legislation can be applied to additional areas such as 6th Street where problematic stores continue to erode the community

On 6th Street, storefronts that once included talented, niche operators such as Pentacle Coffee, Thrasher, Argentum, City Smokehouse, Frena, Create, and more, are now vacant and blighted, or filled with 24 hour convenience stores that primarily serve the nighttime drug market. These stores contribute to attracting and maintaining large crowds on the sidewalk that are very disruptive to their neighbors. In turn, the area requires excessive amounts of public and private services to maintain a modicum of safety and cleanliness.

We strongly believe that the retail hours legislation should be extended to stores in other problematic areas to further mitigate the damage caused by the drug markets.

Sincerely,
Mid Market Community Benefit District

From: [Lara Hashimoto](#)
To: [Crayton, Monique \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Save downtown viability by supporting SOMA convenience store restrictive hours
Date: Wednesday, January 21, 2026 2:29:33 PM

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

Dear Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee,

Since the implementation of the TL pilot program of restrictive convenience stores hours was implemented, it's clear that this has shifted open drug markets and associated crime to 6th Street Mid-Market. This is supported by the police and 311 data where the 6th street corridor has seen some of the highest increase in police calls/crime and the slowest response time. The concentration of social services and shelters along the 6th street corridor has created an environment that caters to drug addicts where convenience stores survive by catering to illegal drug activities 24/7.

Supporting the proposed legislation to expand the TL "retail" hours restriction pilot program will prevent further decline of 6th street squalor conditions created by illegal drugs and ineffective policing.

To be blunt, this is the bare minimum that the Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee can do to stop supporting drug addicts from around the country congregating in my neighborhood. SOMA is now recognized as an area to avoid thereby impeding the possibility of a downtown recovery and hollowing out SF's future revenues base.

Sincerely,
Lara Hashimoto



September 29, 2025

The Hon. Matt Dorsey
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
City Hall, Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Support for Extension of Restricted Business Hours Throughout the DMACC Safety Zone

Supervisor Dorsey:

We write today to urge you to support the extension of the 'Tenderloin Public Safety Area', enforcing restricted business hours from 12:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m., to be covered throughout the DMACC Safety Zone, encompassing parts of our SOMA West neighborhood.

The restriction of hours was a pilot program in the Tenderloin that has been so successful it has been extended. We ask you to work on expanding it further so we can also regain some control of our streets at night.

We continue to see an increase in illegal activities within the vicinity of, and sometimes even inside, retail establishments that are open between late night and early morning hours or 24/7. While SFPD and law enforcement have made progress along the 6th Street corridor during the daytime hours, our community is greatly concerned about the conditions between late night and early morning.

Fencers, users, and dealers engaging in drug use, drug sales, and illegal vending gather and congregate in the proximity of retail businesses open late into the night and early morning hours. Leaving behind trash, human waste, used needles, and other detritus, service workers are confronted with threats to their health and safety. Children, families, seniors, and our small business employees must end up facing these unacceptable conditions on a daily basis too.

Though no one measure will ensure the complete eradication of illegal behavior in our neighborhood, we believe this will go a long way to reducing activity during late night and early morning hours. The SOMA West Neighborhood Association fully supports the extension of reduced business hours throughout the DMACC Safety Zone.

Sincerely,

SOMA West Neighborhood Association

cc: Office of the Mayor
Board of Supervisors

From: [Leah Edwards](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#); [Crayton, Monique \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Support for Regulating Late-Night Convenience Store Hours in Mid-Market and SOMA
Date: Wednesday, January 21, 2026 5:27:22 PM

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

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I am a SOMA West resident writing to support the proposed legislation requiring convenience stores in parts of Mid-Market and SOMA to close between midnight and 5:00 a.m.

This legislation is critical for mitigating the open-air drug markets that plague our neighborhood. At Market Street and 6th Street alone, at least six storefronts that once housed valued neighborhood businesses have been replaced, or are in the process of reopening, as 24-hour convenience stores.

Such a small geographic area certainly does not need that many convenience stores, and certainly not open 24/7. These establishments persist because they serve the nighttime drug market. During overnight hours, they attract large crowds, disrupt nearby residents, and contribute directly to open-air drug activity outside their storefronts. The resulting impacts on public safety and quality of life are severe and well documented, requiring disproportionate public and private resources just to maintain basic safety and cleanliness.

This legislation is a necessary step toward bringing these drug markets under control and restoring livability to Mid-Market and SOMA. Thank you to Supervisors Mahmood and Dorsey for co-sponsoring this important measure and for expanding its boundaries to include our neighborhoods.

Sincerely,
Leah Edwards
D6 Resident

From: [Patrick Eggen](#)
To: [Crayton, Monique \(BOS\)](#); [Michelle Eggen](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Public Safety + Neighborhood Services Committee (line #2) - support of legislation
Date: Thursday, January 22, 2026 10:37:35 AM

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

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors,

I am a SOMA West homeowner, and a father of two young daughters, writing in strong support of the proposed legislation requiring certain convenience stores in Mid-Market and SOMA to close between midnight and 5:00 a.m.

This issue goes far beyond inconvenience. It is about basic public safety and the livability of our neighborhood. At Market Street and 6th Street alone, at least six former neighborhood-serving storefronts have been replaced, or are in the process of reopening, as 24-hour convenience stores. A small geographic area simply does not need this concentration of overnight operations.

These stores are not operating in a vacuum. During late-night hours, they attract large crowds, fuel open-air drug markets, and create conditions that make nearby residents feel unsafe in their own community. As a parent, it is deeply troubling to navigate sidewalks littered with drug activity and associated disorder, especially when walking with children or returning home at night.

The impacts are obvious and well documented: increased criminal activity, noise, trash, and a constant drain on public and private resources just to maintain a baseline level of safety and cleanliness. Allowing these businesses to operate overnight has effectively enabled behavior that undermines the well-being of residents who live here full-time.

This legislation is a reasonable and necessary step toward restoring order, safety, and accountability in Mid-Market and SOMA. I want to thank Supervisors Mahmood and Dorsey for co-sponsoring this measure and for expanding its boundaries to include affected residential areas like ours.

Our neighborhood deserves to be a place where families can live without fear and where businesses operate responsibly. I urge you to support this proposal.

Sincerely,
Patrick Eggen, Michelle, Charlotte (age 10), Cleo (age 5)
District 6 Resident

I am in support of legislation to prohibit convenience store hours of operation between 12 am midnight and 5am, with businesses regulated by the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control able to stay open until 2am, expanding the original Tenderloin pilot area and adding Mid Market and South of Market.

The initial pilot program has been credited with reducing crime, as the support materials note: "A six-month evaluation submitted to the Board of Supervisors [by SFPD] showed a 13% reduction in distinct late-night (12am-5am) violent crime and narcotics incidents... a 17.9% overall decline in calls for service between 12am-5am... (including a 43.6 percent decline in officer-initiated calls during late-night hours), and a reduction in visible late-night street gatherings near formerly open retailers, documented by the Police Department in photographs and incident reports. This data indicates the pilot program is achieving its purpose of reducing late-night open-air drug markets, decreasing violent and property crime, and improving neighborhood livability.

Last Name:	First Name:	Hotel & Address:	Unit #	Phone Number & Email:
Dennis	Keith	ELK	404	510 520 3039
Cohen	Naomi	Edgeworth Hawland Hotel	45	628-249-3351
Martin	William	809 Geary St. #514	415	213-9420
Taylor	Keraw	Pierre	415	240 7457
Duffy	Joe	Pierre	305	628-287-2381
Aiber Prows	Carol	Carland	602	415-368-1513
Vafaya	Melba	Hartland	629	415-261-4515

Dear Members of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to express my strong support for the expansion of the late-night store operating restrictions into the SoMa neighborhood and to respectfully urge the Board to remain firm in advancing and enforcing this policy.

A significant number of the stores impacted by this expansion have repeatedly demonstrated patterns of operating outside the law. Several have been cited and fined by the City for selling tobacco products without valid licenses and promoting online gambling. Many of these establishments function as unlicensed, unregulated "pop-up" markets that do not meet the standards required of lawful businesses operating within San Francisco.

Operating 24 hours a day, these unregulated businesses often become hubs for illicit activity. Their constant availability creates an environment that fosters open-air drug markets and encourages property crime, significantly degrading neighborhood safety and quality of life. Residents and legitimate business owners alike bear the burden of these conditions through increased theft, vandalism, noise disturbances, and public safety concerns.

In contrast, businesses governed by the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC), as well as state and federal regulatory agencies, are subject to routine inspections, compliance checks, and ongoing oversight. These regulatory frameworks exist to ensure public safety, legal compliance, and community accountability. Unfortunately, many of the late-night pop-up markets operate outside these safeguards, creating uneven enforcement and an unfair competitive advantage over responsible businesses that follow the law.

Expanding the late-night store ban into SoMa — and ensuring that it is actively monitored and enforced — will serve as a meaningful step toward reducing drug activity, improving neighborhood safety, and restoring a sense of accountability. This policy represents a critical tool in protecting residents, supporting law-abiding businesses, and strengthening the overall well-being of the community.

Thank you for your leadership and your continued efforts to address the serious challenges facing San Francisco.

Thank you
Subhi Halim

Concerns Regarding the SoMa Curfew Expansion

Submitted to: San Francisco Board of Supervisors

Submitted by: Kayla Brittingham, Resident of SoMa West

Date: 2/4/2026

Purpose of This Submission

I am writing as a concerned neighbor to share questions and concerns regarding the proposed expansion of the Tenderloin retail curfew into South of Market (SoMa). This letter focuses on limitations in the data being cited, assumptions underlying the proposed geographic boundaries, and potential unintended impacts on neighborhoods that are not currently experiencing the conditions the curfew was designed to address.

Background

In June 2024, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a pilot ordinance placing an overnight curfew on certain retail establishments in the Tenderloin, including corner stores, smoke shops, and food and tobacco retailers. The ordinance restricts these businesses from operating between midnight and 5:00 a.m. as a two year pilot intended to reduce late night drug activity and loitering.

In early 2025, approximately nine months of data were presented to the Board. More recently, legislation has been introduced proposing an 18 month expansion of the retail curfew to additional blocks in the SoMa neighborhood.

Community Input and Public Process

It has come to my attention through reporting by Mission Local that the proposed SoMa expansion may soon advance to legislation. The findings presented to the Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee that informed this proposal appear to have moved forward with limited community input. To my knowledge, these discussions and their potential impacts have not been widely communicated to residents or businesses in the affected areas. Meaningful community engagement is particularly important where proposed restrictions may affect functioning neighborhoods with distinct identities and economic patterns.

Public Evidence and Data Limitations

The academic study most often cited in support of expansion “No Sales After Midnight: Evaluating the Impact of a Business Curfew on Drug-Related Crime in San Francisco’s Tenderloin,” published in Security Journal reports an estimated 56% reduction in drug-related police incidents during curfew hours over a nine-month period. While this study provides valuable early insight, the authors are explicit about its limitations.

Specifically:

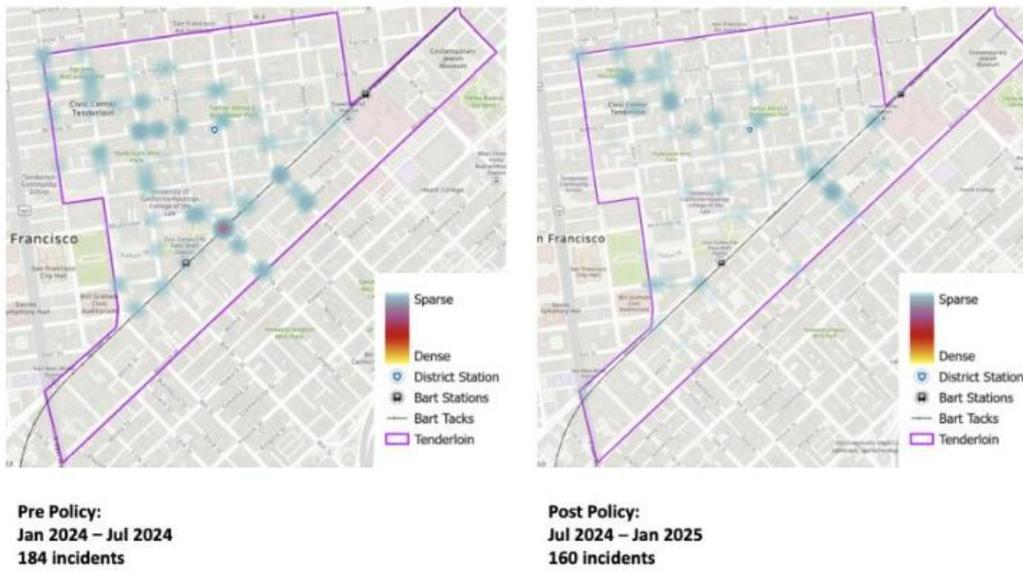
- The study relies on police incident data, which is enforcement-dependent and sensitive to officer presence, reporting practices, and patrol priorities.
- The analysis does not evaluate total crime, calls for service, or broader measures of disorder.
- Economic impacts, equity considerations, and access issues for residents and workers were not measured.
- Due to low incident volume during curfew hours, data was aggregated monthly, limiting sensitivity to short-term changes or enforcement shifts.

As a result, incident counts alone are not a clean measure of underlying street conditions, particularly when enforcement strategies may change alongside policy implementation.

Importantly, the academic study does not validate the broader pre and post policy crime graphs or heat maps presented by SFPD. The study evaluates a narrow outcome drug related police incidents during curfew hours while SFPD visuals often reference broader categories such as total incidents or calls for service. These are different measures and should not be treated interchangeably.

Boundary Assumptions and Scope

Publicly presented SFPD heat maps show a strong concentration of incidents within the Tenderloin core, with significantly weaker intensity across much of the proposed SoMa expansion area. Based on the SFPD visualization shown, the proposed expanded boundary enclosure territory does not appear to be a high incident area.



The proposed SoMa proposed boundary therefore appears to be based more on anticipated displacement than on demonstrated conditions. This shifts the policy from a targeted intervention to a broader restriction applied preemptively. This policy assumes the political position of “If activity moves here, we’re already covered.” The academic study found no spatial displacement during curfew hours, and only preliminary evidence of possible displacement to SoMa during non curfew hours. Analytically that’s a preemptive regulation without demonstrated need. Once you normalize that logic, there’s no principled stopping point.

Neighborhood Context and Reputational Impacts

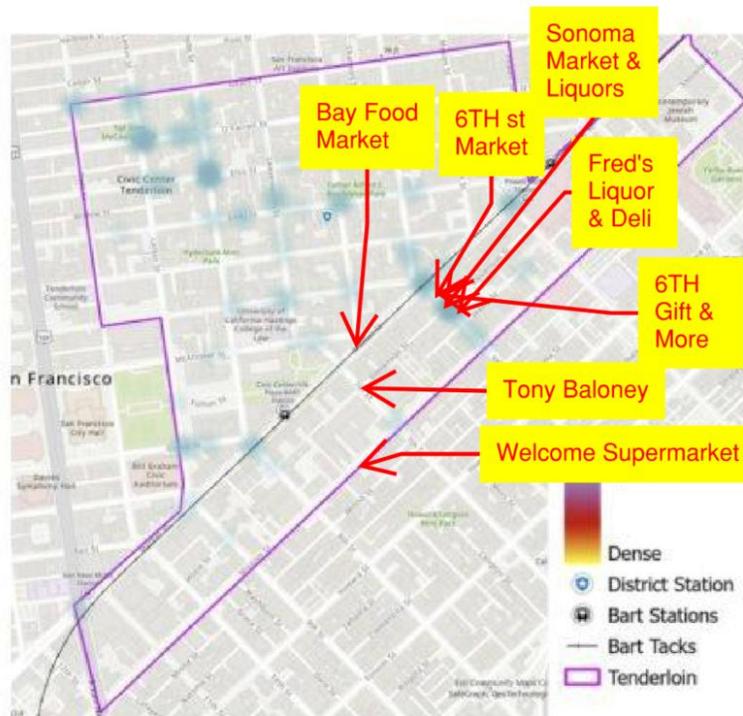
South of Market (SoMa) is a diverse, mixed use neighborhood with a long-standing role in San Francisco’s nightlife, arts, and cultural landscape. The area is home to music venues, performance spaces, galleries, small businesses, and late night dining that contribute to street activity and informal community presence during evening hours. For many blocks, nighttime activity is a defining feature of the neighborhood’s identity and economic viability, rather than a source of disorder.

SoMa’s character varies significantly by block, and many areas included in the proposed curfew expansion do not experience the conditions the Tenderloin pilot was designed to address. Policies that restrict late night activity in these areas risk disrupting existing cultural ecosystems and community life without clear evidence of need.

The proposed SoMa border looks like a risk containment perimeter, not a response to observed crime density. Once a neighborhood is included in a “public safety” or curfew zone, it’s implicitly branded as: Dangerous, disorderly, drug-impacted.

Even spots that don’t get swept into the hotspots on SFPD maps, and don’t experience late night disorder on scale, get swept into the same narrative as the Tenderloin core. Many parts of the SoMa map do not show heavy crime in much of the included area and the stigma is disconnected from lived conditions. Overlaying a Tenderloin style curfew frame onto SoMa collapses those distinctions and freezes perception at the worst possible moment for its recovery.

Current businesses that operate during proposed curfew hours.



**Post Policy:
Jul 2024 – Jan 2025
160 incidents**

Conclusion

As the Board considers expansion of the retail curfew, it is important to distinguish clearly between demonstrated outcomes and assumed risk, particularly given the economic,

social, and reputational consequences involved. Clear standards for boundary selection, transparent use of data, and meaningful engagement with impacted communities are essential to maintaining public confidence and ensuring that the policy remains appropriately targeted.

References

Mission Local, *SF police say Tenderloin store curfew is a success*

<https://missionlocal.org/2025/04/sf-police-tenderloin-store-curfew-success/>

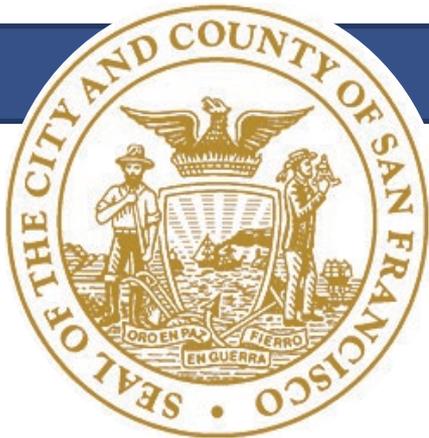
San Francisco Standard, *Tenderloin business curfew study cited in SoMa expansion*

<https://sfstandard.com/2025/11/25/tenderloin-business-curfew-study-soma-expansion/>

Nazzari et al., *Security Journal*, “No Sales After Midnight”

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1057/s41284-025-00517-w>

Expanding the Retail Hours Restriction Pilot



CITY & COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

Police Department

January 22, 2026

Problem Statement

The Tenderloin/South of Market open-air drug market has contributed to deteriorating street conditions, drug sales, public drug use and drug intoxication, excessive trash, discarded drug paraphernalia, and unsanitary conditions on our city sidewalks. The drug market also contributes to retail theft and a robust illegal vending market.

The environment creates unsafe and unhealthy conditions for nearby residents and economic loss.

Why This Policy

- Late-night drug markets cluster around open stores and tobacco retailers (12 a.m. to 5 a.m.)
- Open stores provide lighted gathering points for drug users to congregate
- Similar areas outside of the Tenderloin/SOMA show fewer serious crimes

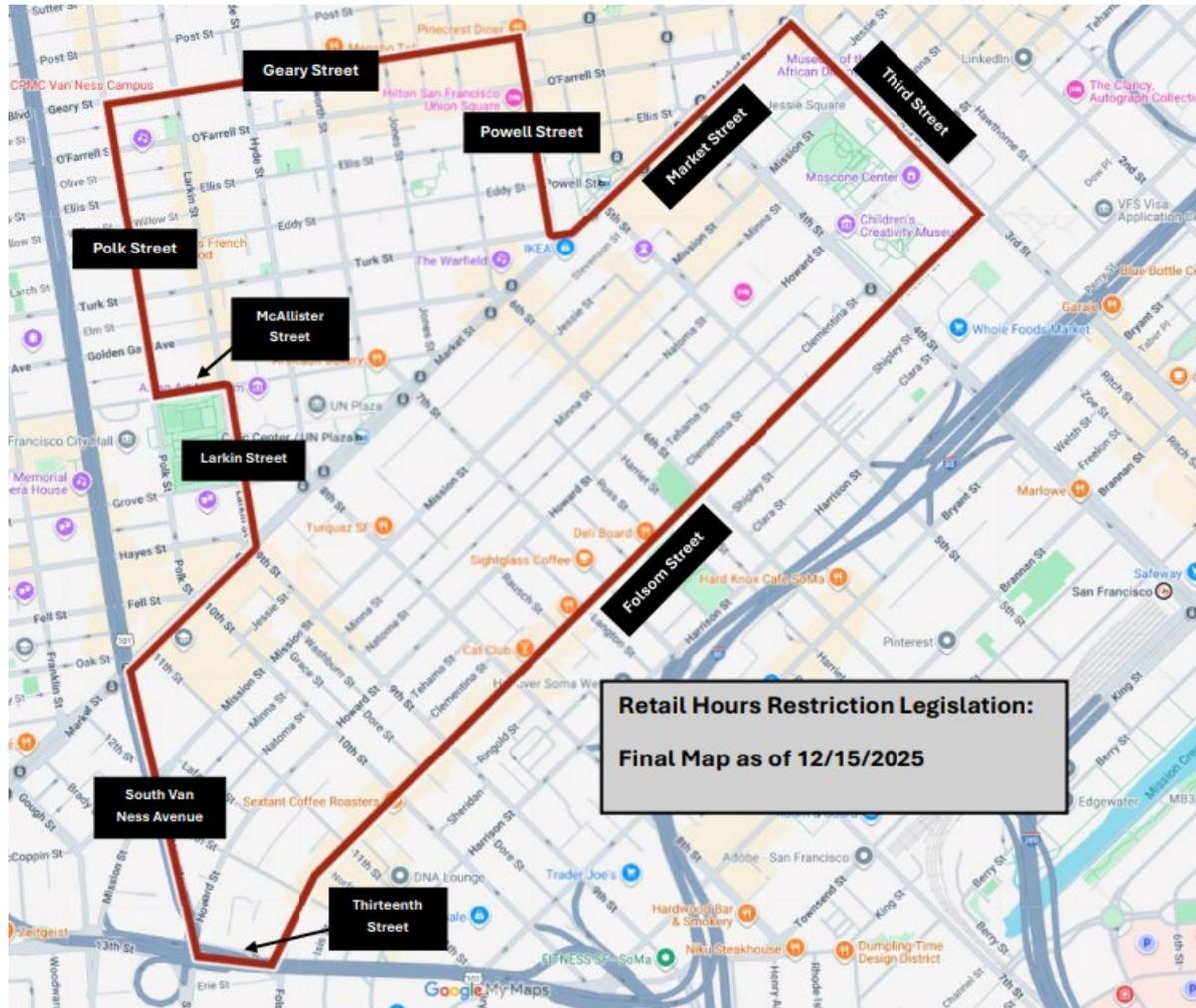
Ordinance Overview

- Prohibits certain food/tobacco retail from 12 a.m. to 5 a.m. (2 a.m. to 5 a.m. for ABC-regulated)
- Administrative fines up to \$1,000 per violation
- Pilot program expanded north to Geary Street, east to Powell Street and west to Polk Street and south to South of Market corridors.
- Instead of expiring in June 2026, the pilot would extend an additional **18 months** from the date the ordinance takes effect
- Does not apply to restaurants, bars, or non-retail

Why Expand the Public Safety Zone?

- Persistent late-night drug activity documented in South of Market, Lower Nob Hill, Polk Corridor and Powell Street, particularly around late-night food and tobacco retailers.
- SFPD analysis shows higher serious-crime rates (12 a.m. to 5 a.m.) in expansion area vs. comparable neighborhoods
- Results and independent study of the original Public Safety Area indicate likely similar benefits if applied to adjacent high-risk areas

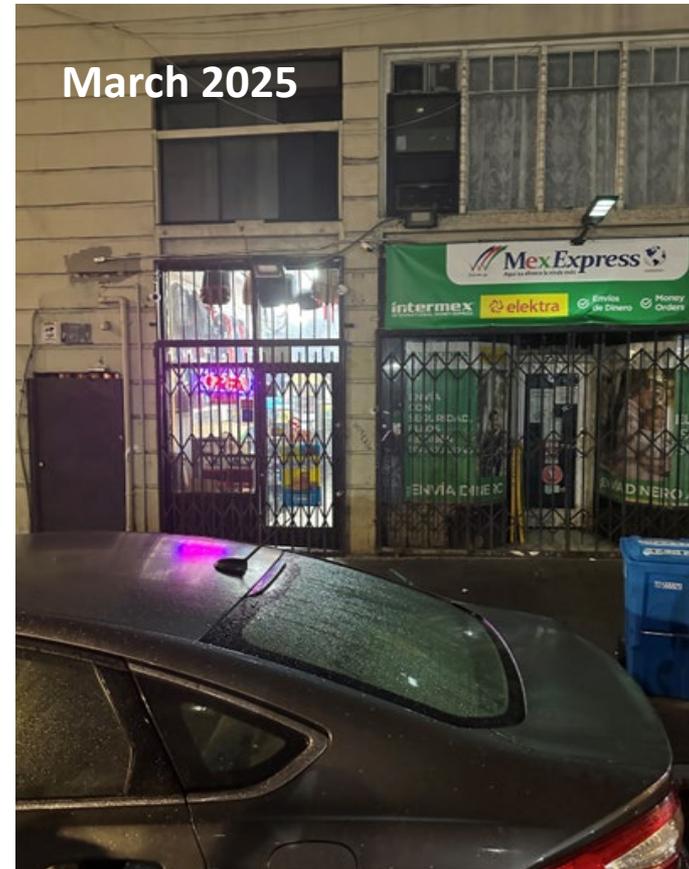
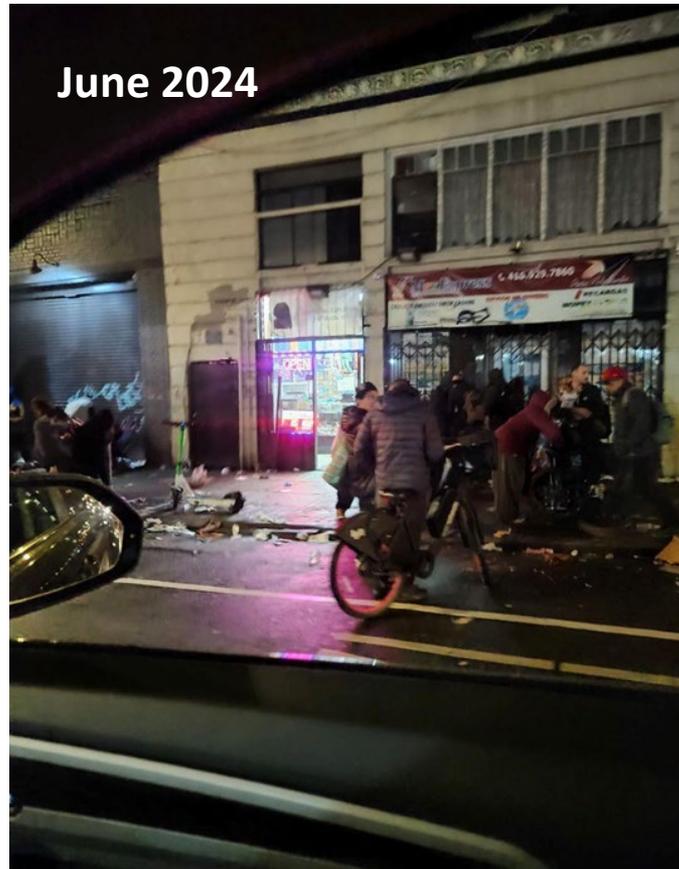
Map of Proposed Expanded Public Safety Area



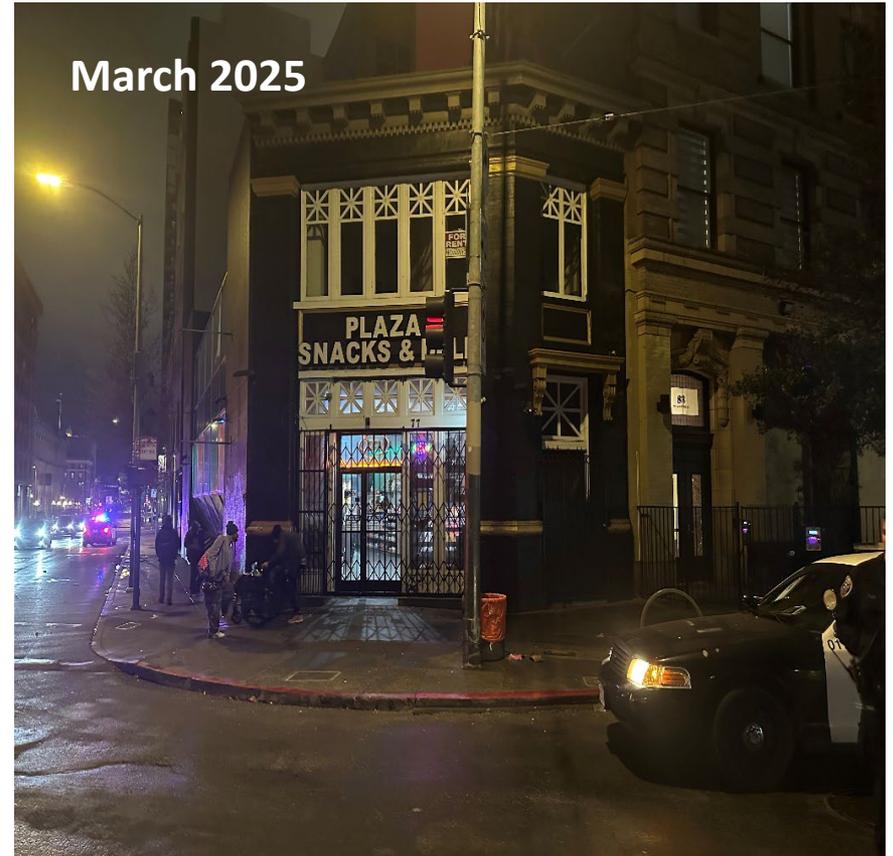
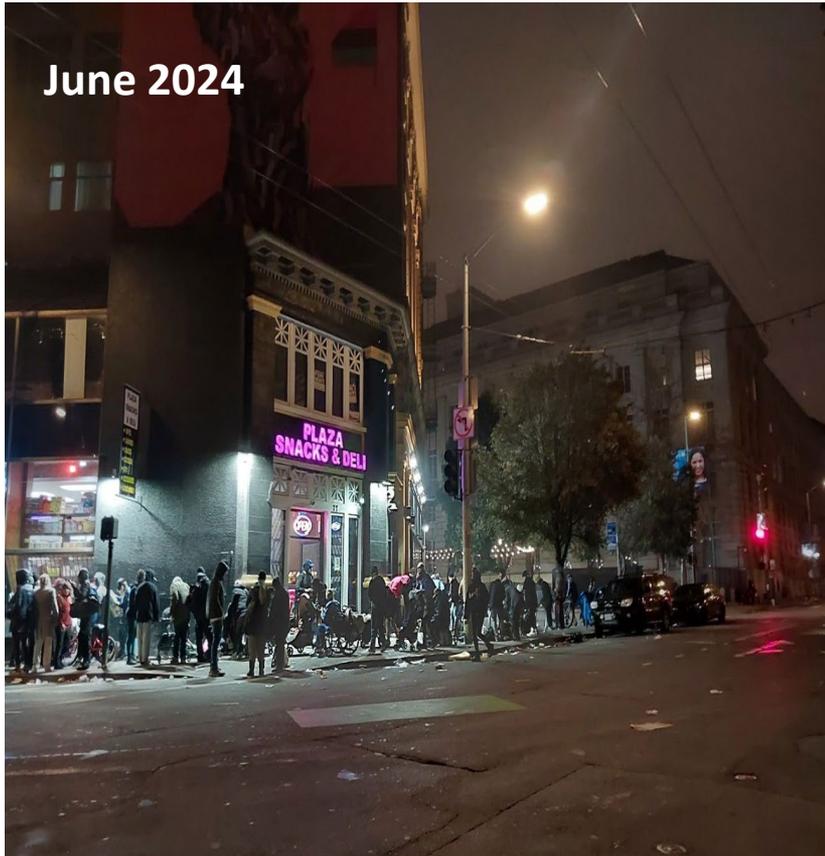
Quantitative Outcomes in the Original Public Safety Area

- **SFPD Data (comparing pre-pilot 1/27/2024 through 7/26/2024 to pilot underway 7/27/2024 through 1/26/2025)**
 - 14% reduction in violent crime and narcotics incidents in the Public Safety Area
 - 17.9% reduction in total calls for service during curfew hours
 - 43.6% reduction in on-view calls during curfew hours
- **Independent Peer-Reviewed Study in Security Journal, 2026 (comparing pre-pilot 1/2018 through 7/2024 to pilot underway 8/2024 through 4/2025)**
 - 56% reduction in drug-related incidents during curfew hours

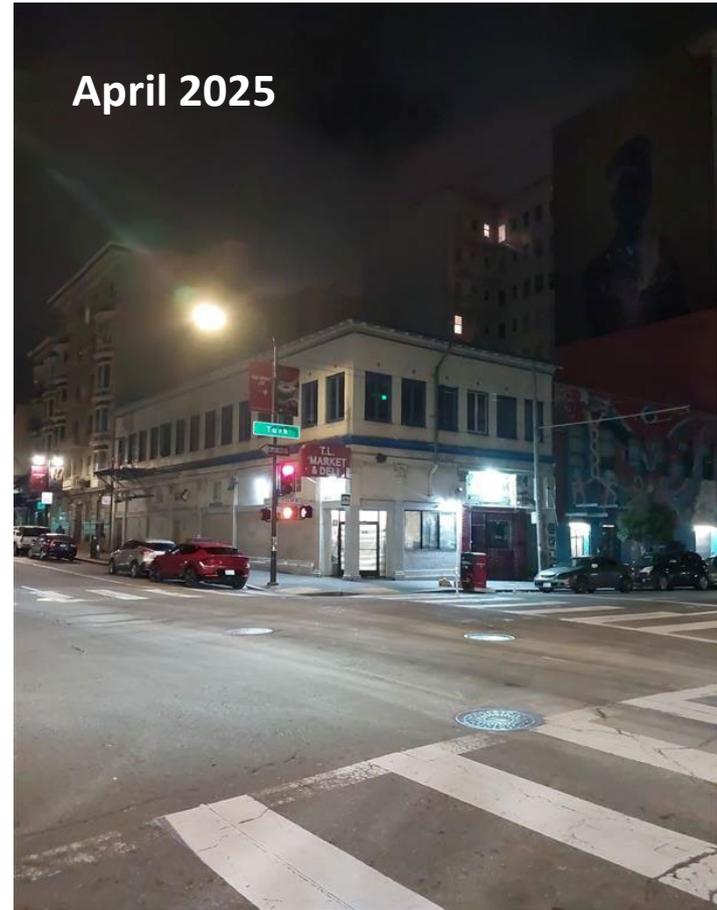
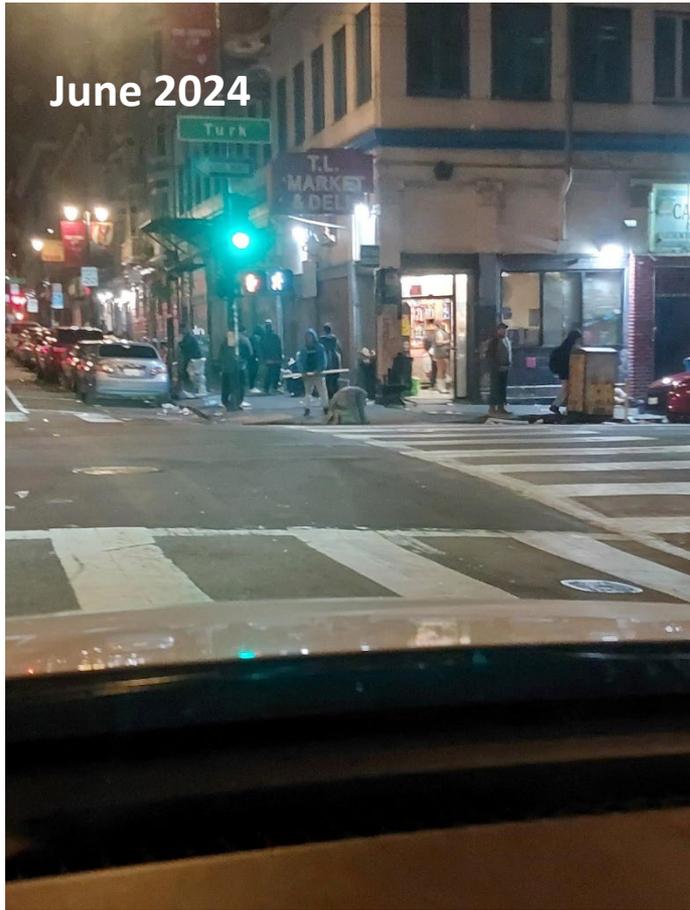
Point in Time Qualitative Outcomes in the Original Public Safety Area



149 Hyde Street (after midnight)



77 McAllister Street (after midnight)



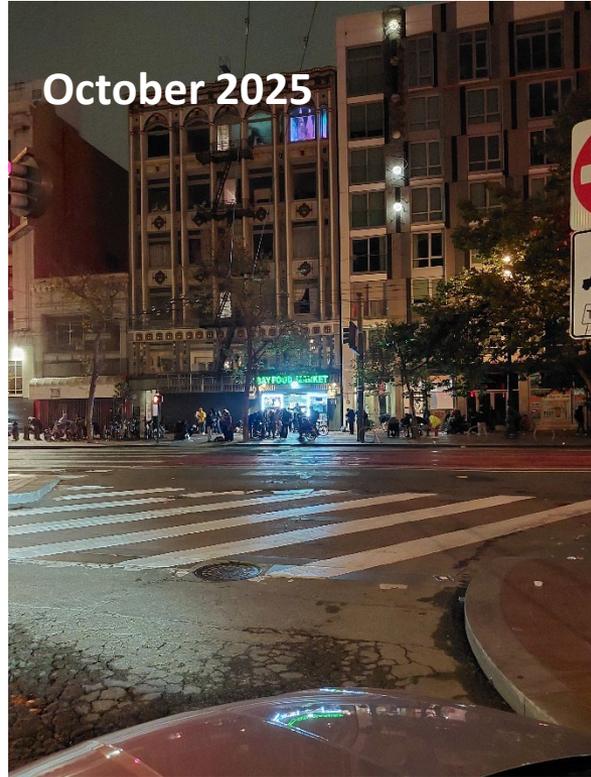
200 Leavenworth Street

Current Conditions in the Proposed Expanded Public Safety Area



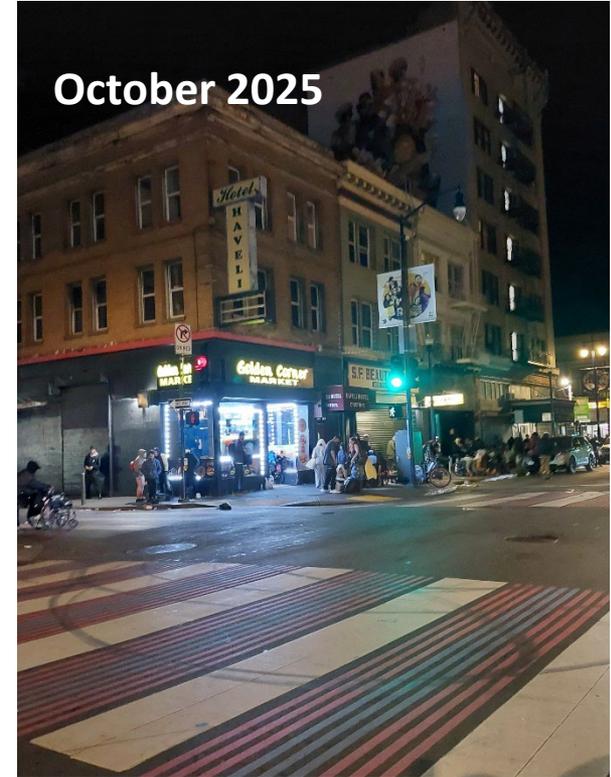
October 2025

1010 Market Street (4 a.m.)



October 2025

1073 Market Street (4 a.m.)



October 2025

35 6th Street (4 a.m.)

Crime Data in the Proposed Expanded Public Safety Area (March through August 2025)

- 211 distinct late-night (12 a.m. to 5 a.m.) incidents
- Assaults (148), robberies (47), narcotics (73), shootings (7)

Anticipated Impacts in the Proposed Expanded Public Safety Area

- Improved late-night conditions supporting neighborhood safety
- Reduced late-night violent and property crime and calls for service
- Less debris and unsanitary conditions

Any Questions?

Thank you!



CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
DANIEL L. LURIE, MAYOR

OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS
DIRECTOR KATY TANG

January 30, 2026

Ms. Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board
City Hall Room 244
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

**RE: BOS File No. 251251 Tenderloin and South of Market Retail Hours Restriction Pilot Program -
Oppose**

Dear Ms. Calvillo,

On January 26, 2026, the Small Business Commission (the Commission) heard BOS File No. 251251 – Tenderloin and South of Market Retail Hours Restriction Pilot Program. Bryan Dahl, Legislative Aide for Supervisor Dorsey, presented the legislation, which would expand the current Tenderloin retail hours restriction pilot program to include the South of Market neighborhood and extend the duration of the pilot timeline.

The Commission discussed their previous work in identifying economic mitigation measures in support of small businesses that were adversely affected by City-mandated tobacco control laws. The Commission acknowledged that many of those operators will be impacted by this proposal. A majority of the Commission voted to oppose this legislation. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Katy Tang". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Katy Tang
Director, Office of Small Business

Introduction Form

(by a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor)



I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):

- 1. For reference to Committee (Ordinance, Resolution, Motion or Charter Amendment)
- 2. Request for next printed agenda (For Adoption Without Committee Reference)
(Routine, non-controversial and/or commendatory matters only)
- 3. Request for Hearing on a subject matter at Committee
- 4. Request for Letter beginning with "Supervisor inquires..."
- 5. City Attorney Request
- 6. Call File No. from Committee.
- 7. Budget and Legislative Analyst Request (attached written Motion)
- 8. Substitute Legislation File No.
- 9. Reactivate File No.
- 10. Topic submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the Board on

The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following (please check all appropriate boxes):

- Small Business Commission Youth Commission Ethics Commission
- Planning Commission Building Inspection Commission Human Resources Department

General Plan Referral sent to the Planning Department (proposed legislation subject to Charter 4.105 & Admin 2A.53):

- Yes No

(Note: For Imperative Agenda items (a Resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative Agenda Form.)

Sponsor(s):

Subject:

Long Title or text listed:

Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor: