

From: [Paula Katz](#)
To: [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [EngardioStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: L Taraval Construction Small Business Relief
Date: Friday, February 2, 2024 9:45:51 PM

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

Dear Chair Chan and members of the Budget & Finance Committee,

I strongly urge you to please approve the \$1 million re-appropriations request from APEC reserves to small business relief due to L Taraval construction project impacts.

Taraval Street is a diverse neighborhood commercial corridor, with a 100+ mom-and-pop shops and eateries. A majority are owned by first and second generation families, and many are monolingual language speakers.

Like all small businesses, Taraval merchants suffered during the COVID-19 pandemic. But when COVID-19 subsided, the SFMTA's L Taraval Project began construction, leaving many small merchants on the verge of closing-up shop. And the construction has lasted many years now, moving from the western portion of Taraval west of Sunset in Phase A, disrupting all those merchants, and now on the eastern portion of Taraval east of Sunset, disrupting all those merchants.

L Taraval construction has deterred customers due to parking issues, road closures, constant jackhammering and demolition, and lack of business access. Many former customers now head elsewhere and Taraval merchants need relief.

Although I am not a merchant, I am a resident of District 4 who lives a block and a half from Taraval. I find it difficult to park when I try to shop at my favorite stores and restaurants. And I have many friends who are Taraval merchants affected by the construction, and they've told me how bad business has been when the construction has been in front of their places of business.

The city needs to provide Taraval merchants a lifeline. Please approve this \$1 million appropriations request for small business relief from L Taraval construction project impacts.

Thank you,

Paula Katz
District 4 resident

From: [Sushi Zen](#)
To: [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#); [EngardioStaff \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: L Taraval Construction Small Business Relief_Sushi Zen Restaurant
Date: Monday, February 5, 2024 11:32:30 AM

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

Dear Chair Chan and members of the Budget & Finance Committee -

My name is Kevin Chen and I am the owner of Sushi Zen Restaurant on Taraval St. between 20th and 21st Ave. The recent SFMTA's L Taraval St. Project has negatively impacted my business. Like all small businesses, we suffered during the COVID-19 pandemic. As COVID-19 started to subside, we were hoping to see our business pick up, but the Taraval St. Project began construction, leaving many small merchants (including myself) on the verge of closing-up shop.

Before the project started, Sushi Zen Restaurant's monthly sales were ~\$90k, but since the construction, the sales have dropped down to \$70k. Therefore, we are projecting to lose over \$40k in sales for the months of January and February 2024.

The Taraval St. construction has deterred customers due to parking issues, road closures, constant jackhammering and demolition, and lack of business access. This leaves many customers to dine elsewhere as this is an inconvenience to them. **Taraval merchants need relief NOW, and are in need of the city to finish the project ASAP.**

I am writing to you all today to please approve the \$1 million re-appropriations request from APEC reserves for small business relief due to L Taraval St. construction project impacts.

Thank you for your time.

In Regards,

Kevin Chen
Sushi Zen Restaurant, Inc.

From: [Sarah Garand](#)
To: [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Hsieh, Frances \(BOS\)](#); [Fieber, Jennifer \(BOS\)](#); [DeRuff, Henry \(BOS\)](#); [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#); [Dorsey, Matt \(BOS\)](#); [Tam, Madison \(BOS\)](#); raquel@somapilipinas.org; srowitz@ybcdbd.org; carol@creativity.org
Subject: STRONGLY supporting item 8 to make the Yerba Buena community whole again
Date: Monday, February 5, 2024 1:04:55 PM

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

Dear Chair Chan, Supervisor Mandelman, and Supervisor Melgar:

I'm the co-owner and operator of Wine Down, a wine & beer bar located at 685 Folsom (between 3rd and Hawthorne), located directly in the highly restricted red security zone for the APEC Conference. Our business suffered significant financial loss during the week of APEC.

Typically, Moscone Center conferences like Dreamforce and RSA are a huge boost to our business but between the increased security, road closures, and overall discouragement for others outside of APEC conference attendees to travel to our area (resulting in several group event cancellations for us), we made the difficult to decision to close our business the week of APEC, as operating without customers would have forced us to suffer even greater financial loss.

We had submitted an application to get involved with APEC as an official event, but never received a response.

Our business is already suffering with our Yerba Buena/SOMA location so dependent on office workers returning to work, which hasn't happened; our revenue remains down more than 50% since 2019. Our closure during APEC week was another major blow.

We strongly support the creation of a relief fund for businesses and organizations impacted by APEC, and support increasing the amount for the fund to \$3 million so that all affected businesses and organizations can be adequately compensated.

Special thank you to Chair Chan for dedication to this issue and helping to make businesses in our community whole again.

Sincerely,
Sarah Garand
Sarah Garand
Co-Owner, Wine Down
685 Folsom Street
IG: [@winedownsf](#)
winedownsf.com

From: [Greg Lindgren](#)
To: [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Hsieh, Frances \(BOS\)](#); [Fieber, Jennifer \(BOS\)](#); [DeRuff, Henry \(BOS\)](#); [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#); [Dorsey, Matt \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: STRONGLY supporting item 8 to make the Yerba Buena community whole again
Date: Monday, February 5, 2024 1:34:59 PM

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

Dear Budget Committee Members,

I am a co-owner of a cocktail bar called The Cordial, located at 163 Jessie Street. We were located inside the green zone during APEC.

Generally we try to survive the downturn in business since covid required we be closed. When we were able to open again, business has not rebounded for these reasons:

- 1) Street crime issues such as car break ins, retail theft, tagging, vandalism.
- 2) Drug addict street issues such as urinating and defecating in the area, passing out in or around our businesses and generally taking over of public space.
- 3) Layoffs and flexible schedules for office workers in the area.

Prior to APEC, some of the thinking was that it would have the same type of effect as a convention like Dreamforce a few weeks earlier. Businesses like ours depend on more and more conventions like Dreamforce and the Gamers convention to survive and thrive. When there are no conventions, we operate 3 days a week as that reflects the new work week offices are running in the area.

The prioritization of clearing the zone for security had a long-needed effect of forcing street crime, drug addicts out of the immediate area. Unfortunately, creating the security zone also rebuffed most of the would-be customers of our bar. The prospect that APEC attendees would stop in to our establishment never happened. We understand that many of the attendees had access to food and drinks and pre-arranged events which did not include our business.

It was great to see the sheer numbers of law enforcement, Homeland, SFPD, SF Sheriffs, CHP and more. It was good to know that we actually have law enforcement personnel in California and that they can be deployed to keep order and help us maintain a clean, cleared public environment.

Our neighborhood was afflicted with man-made problems, and the APEC security treatment was comparable to getting chemotherapy. A temporary force eradicated some of the sources crime, squalor and blight, but also killed the healthy business transaction in the area for the week.

I urge you to approve a \$3 million fund to support businesses which were affected.

Thank you,

Greg Lindgren | [The Cordial](#)
greg@cordialbar.com | (415) 786-7803

From: [Michael Sopher](#)
To: [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Hsieh, Frances \(BOS\)](#); [Fieber, Jennifer \(BOS\)](#); [DeRuff, Henry \(BOS\)](#); [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#); [Dorsey, Matt \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: STRONGLY In Support of Item 8 (to make the Yerba Buena community whole again)
Date: Monday, February 5, 2024 2:01:33 PM

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

Greetings Chair Chan, Supervisor Mandelman, & Supervisor Melgar,

My name is Michael Sopher. I am the managing member and owner of Tropisueño Mexican Restaurant on Yerba Buena Lane, between 3rd and 4th Streets, @ Mission and have been since opening in 2008. We are/were located within the secondary security zone for APEC and was very negatively impacted by this conference. I am sure you're going to hear the same story over and over again, and ours is exactly the same; we needed to pre-order product from our vendors because they refused to attempt the security zone for the week. Additionally, we had staffed according to The City and the press stating how this conference would bring a tremendous, much needed, financial lift to the area, which was fantastic news "post" COVID. My excitement for this convention was all for not. Our average sales before APEC was \$15-\$20,000 per day and for this convention, we did roughly \$3-\$6,000 per day. Add in the amount of wasted product and labor dollars, and our losses were substantial, upwards of \$100,000. Needless to say, when I heard that San Francisco would possibly help out those of us impacted by APEC, some of my excitement came back, until I saw it was only \$2,000,000. Based on what we lost alone, this amount most definitely needs to be increased to at the *very least*, \$3,000,000. Having lost two restaurants during COVID and almost losing Tropisueño, if it were not for the help of the federal government, my gratitude towards San Francisco, the state of California and of course "Uncle" Joe Biden for helping my family not lose absolutely everything is incalculable.

Lastly, I would like to thank all of you, especially Chair Chan for taking the time from your busy schedules to read my email and to take our issues with the APEC convention seriously. Many of our businesses are hanging on by a shoestring and APEC ended up being a dagger in the heart, so all of us are very grateful for your work on this.

Sincerely,

Michael Sopher
Proprietor

-

https://url.avanan.click/v2/___www.Tropisueno.com___YXAzOnNmZHQyOmE6bzoyYTQ5MzVmOTY3M2ZhYTY1MDhjZWU5NjhmODYzOTEwND02Ojg0MjY6NDZmYmFIN2VmM2I2ZjU1NmJkOGEzOWVkmM2IwMGI0Zjc4YTA5MjM4YmE0MGQ4NzIzODdhN2Q0ZDFkYTZIYTlmYzpw00IQ

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somba South of Market Business Association
660 4th Street, #340 • San Francisco , CA 94107 • www.sfsomba.org
Phone: 415.420.8113 • email: info@sfsomba.com

February 5, 2024

Mr. Brent Jalipa
Clerk, Budget and Finance Committee
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

RE;
APEC Summit Financial Impacts – File #321243.

Dear Supervisors Dorsey and Chan,

I am the president of SOMBA (South of Market Business Association) A nonprofit organization working to promote South of Market as a vital place to live, work, visit and do business.

I am writing to thank you both for introducing legislation to provide grants to small businesses, cultural institutions, community organizations, residents, and workers within and immediately surrounding the security perimeters, particularly the Yerba Buena/Moscone area where the summit was held; who were negatively financially impacted by the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)

We look forward to the passage of this legislation and making apparently two million dollars (\$2,000,000.) available ASAP for grants to cover losses during APEC.

Sincerely,



Henry Karnilowicz
President

Cc:
Supervisor Connie Chan
Supervisor Rafael Mandelman
Supervisor Myrna Melgar
Supervisor Matt Dorsey

From: [Rolling Out](#)
To: [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#); [EngardioStaff \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Re-appropriations from APEC reserves to Taraval small businesses
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 4:53:33 AM

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

Dear Budget & Finance Committee,

I am the owner of Rolling-Out Cafe at 1722 Taraval, and earnestly request that the \$1 million re-appropriations from APEC reserves to Taraval small businesses be granted. Many small businesses on Taraval, my store included, have been negatively affected by the ongoing L-Taraval MTA project on and near Taraval.

My store has been hurt by this L-Taraval project in multiple ways:

(1) I have observed a significant drop in revenue since 3Q 2023 when access to my shop has been hindered the most and surrounding road conditions have been unpleasant to drivers. From 2Q 2023 to 3Q 2023, my store's revenue dropped by 34%. From 1st half 2023 (1Q+2Q) to 2nd half 2023 (3Q+4Q), revenue dropped by 37%. This trend of revenue drop is continuing. Customers have been saying to me that parking has been very difficult, and many times when they try to come to my shop, they would just give up because of the lack of parking. If the current revenue level continues, Rolling-Out may end up being another casualty from this L-Taraval project.

(2) Up till 2023, I used to have 2 employees, both part time. I now have no employees. While I do hope to hire one, the current revenue makes it difficult.

(3) In May 2022, I had to demolish our popular parklet to allow for the L-Taraval project. This parklet was a big part of our Parkside community. This parklet was made possible with the support from former Supervisors Carmen Chu and Katy Tang, a grant from the City, and money donated from many local residents and merchants. Customers have constantly asked me when the Parklet would come back as they are missing an outdoor seating area here to get together or to relax. There is simply no dollar value that can be put on the community's loss as a result of the demolition of this parklet.

The \$1 million requested by the current Supervisor Joel Engardio would help compensate for the losses experienced by many merchants on Taraval. I sincerely hope that you would grant this request.

In closing, while I am fully aware that the Budget Committee is not responsible for the current L-Taraval project, I do hope that the City and its departments involved would wrap up this L-Taraval project as soon as possible. All the people I've spoken to, residents and merchants alike, are very tired of the inconvenience this project has caused.

Thank you for your kind consideration.

Sincerely,
Bruno Tse
Owner
Rolling-Out Cafe
1722 Taraval Street

From: [Henry Karnilowicz](#)
To: [Julipa, Brent \(BSC\)](#)
Subject: APEC funding for SOMBA.pdf
Date: Monday, February 9, 2024 8:48:42 PM
Attachments: [APEC_funding_for_SOMBA.pdf](#)

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

Dear Mr. Julipa,

Attached is my letter re your and Supervisors Myrna Melgar and Matt Dorseys introduction of the APEC legislation.

Cordially,

Henry Karnilowicz

OCCIDENTAL EXPRESS
Consulting Design Construction Management
CSL #319153
1019 Howard Street
San Francisco, CA 94103-2806
415-420.8113 cell
415.621.7583 fax
https://url.lavanan.click/v2/___YXAzOnNmZHQyOmE6bzpYjkyY10ZjIM2E2N2Y2YWMyZml4ZTdhZWY4NzNkNTQjZjY2OTQ6ZWVjNDY2NDZiZDBkZjVlYzU4ZTdkYTNmYyZDM3YTE5ZDg0Yjg4NGYxYzI3ZDMDAzYmRhODU0YTcyZGNIOTp0OIQ

President
SOMBA (South Of Market Business Association)

President Emeritus
San Francisco Council of District Merchants Associations

Co-chair
SFPD x Chief's Small Business Advisory Forum

February 5, 2024

Budget & Finance Committee

Supervisors Chan, Mandelman & Melgar
San Francisco City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: APEC Small Business Mitigation

Dear Supervisors Chan, Mandelman & Melgar:

We are writing to express our strong support for the ordinance introduced by Supervisor Chan and co-sponsored by Supervisors Peskin and Dorsey, which proposes an appropriation of \$3 million as a relief fund for SOMA businesses impacted by the APEC event.

While we appreciate the willingness of the Mayor's office and the Office of Economic and Workforce Development (OEWD) to support \$2M for small businesses, we believe that the proposed amount does not fully address the losses suffered by businesses during APEC. Many businesses reported significant drops in foot traffic and sales, with some experiencing losses of up to 40%.

We understand that there are competing proposals for the remaining balance of the reserved funds. However, given the extent of the losses suffered by businesses during APEC, we believe it is crucial to allocate even a larger portion of funds to support the affected businesses.

We urge the committee to consider the real and substantial impact of the APEC perimeter on SoMA businesses and to allocate funds commensurate with the losses suffered. We thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jose Pecho, Chairman
SF Filipino American
Chamber of Commerce
jose@sffilamchamber.org



Carlos Solórzano,
President
Hispanic Chambers of
Commerce, SF
carlos@hccsf.com



Matthew Ajiake, President
SF African American Chamber
of Commerce
drmattthewajiake@gmail.com



Wade Lai, President
SF Chinese Chamber of
Commerce
wade@igrfx.com

Cc:

frances.hsieh@sfgov.org
jennifer.fieber@sfgov.org
henry.deruff@sfgov.org

Cc the Budget Clerk:
Brent.Jalipa@sfgov.org

From: [Michael Brewer, GM 53 Third Street 0254](#)
To: [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Hsieh, Frances \(BOS\)](#); [Fieber, Jennifer \(BOS\)](#); [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: STRONGLY supporting item 8 to make the Yerba Buena community whole again
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 12:54:00 PM

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

Hello,

My name is Michael Brewer and I am the General Manager of the California Pizza Kitchen located at 53 3rd St. Just up from the Moscone Center.

We were hoping for a rise in business during the APEC conference as they made it sound like there would be tons of people coming into the area.

Unfortunately that was not the case. In fact, we lost over Thirty Seven thousand dollars compared to our normal sales. We had protests in front of our front door. People were not allowed down the streets making us having to close completely on a Friday, one of our busiest days usually.

The law enforcement was very sympathetic and were very polite.

Unfortunately, I am unable to attend the meeting on Wednesday morning, but I support the increase in amount. And I sincerely want to thank Chairperson Chan on helping this and for all her work.

Best Regards

Michael Brewer

General Manager

California Pizza Kitchen
53 3rd Street
San Francisco, Ca. 94103

415.278.0443

CPK.com

From: [Lance Harriman](#)
To: [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [EngardioStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: L Taraval Construction Small Business Relief
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 12:55:35 PM

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

Dear Chair Chan and members of the Budget & Finance Committee,

I am writing to request your approval for the \$1 million re-appropriations from APEC reserves to small business relief, specifically to address the detrimental impacts of the L Taraval construction project.

Taraval Street serves as a vibrant neighborhood commercial corridor, boasting over 100 small businesses and eateries, many of which are family-owned and operated. These establishments are the heart and soul of our community, representing the cultural diversity and entrepreneurial spirit of our city.

Unfortunately, the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic dealt a severe blow to these businesses, as it did to small businesses across the globe. However, just as they began to recover from the economic hardships brought on by the pandemic, they were faced with another significant challenge—the commencement of the SFMTA's L Taraval Project.

The ongoing construction has had a devastating impact on these small merchants. The disruption caused by parking issues, road closures, incessant jackhammering, and limited business access has deterred customers from patronizing these establishments. As a result, many of these businesses have experienced a significant loss of foot traffic and a decline in financial income.

The tranquility of Ocean Beach Physical Therapy was disrupted by ongoing construction noise and a severe shortage of parking, causing a significant loss for our business. As patients sought solace in their healing journey, they were met with the clamor of machinery and the frustration of circling endlessly for parking. The construction's relentless disruption deterred both existing and potential clients, impeding our ability to provide essential care and support.

It is imperative that we provide immediate assistance to these Taraval merchants, who are struggling to stay afloat amidst these challenging circumstances. Therefore, I urge you to approve the proposed \$1 million appropriations request for small business relief, specifically aimed at alleviating the adverse effects of the L Taraval construction project.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Lance Harriman, MSPT

Owner of Ocean Beach Physical Therapy located on Taraval Street at 44th Ave

From: [Janice Cheung](#)
To: [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#); [EngardioStaff \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: L Taraval Construction Small Business Relief
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 2:30:49 PM

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

Dear Chair Chan and members of the Budget & Finance Committee,

Please approve the \$1 million re-appropriations request from APEC reserves to small business relief due to L Taraval construction project impacts.

Best regards,

Janice Cheung
Szechuan Taste Restaurant, Inc.
917 Taraval Street
SF, CA 94116

From: [shanshan Wang](#)
To: [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#); [EngardioStaff \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: L Taraval Construction Small Business Relief
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 3:59:00 PM

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

Dear Chair Chan and members of the Budget & Finance Committee,

Please approve the \$1 million re-appropriations request from APEC reserves to small business relief due to L Taraval construction project impacts.

SHANSHAN WANG
GUILIN RICE NOODLE HOUSE

From: [Linda Lucero](#)
To: [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Hsieh, Frances \(BOS\)](#); [Fieber, Jennifer \(BOS\)](#); [DeRuff, Henry \(BOS\)](#); [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#); [Dorsey, Matt \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: STRONGLY supporting item 8 to provide Yerba Buena community economic relief
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 4:48:55 PM
Attachments: [24 APEC support letter.pdf](#)

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

Chairperson Connie Chan
Supervisor Myrna Melgar
Supervisor Rafael Mandelman
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco City Hall
San Francisco, CA, 94102

Honorable Chairperson Chan, Supervisor Melgar, and Supervisor Mandelman,

Yerba Buena Gardens Festival is the independent presenting organization dedicated to enhancing the vitality and quality of life in San Francisco's Yerba Buena Gardens through the curated presentation of admission-free artistic, community, and cultural programs. Artistic excellence, inclusion, diversity, and innovation are at the heart of our mission.

I am writing to support the legislation before the Budget Committee of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. As you know, APEC had unintended major hardship for the small businesses and non-profits organizations of the Yerba Buena neighborhood. Because of the closure of Yerba Buena Gardens, our organization lost anticipated private rental income. Our neighboring restaurants, cafés, food malls, childcare centers, ice skating and bowling centers, and museums and galleries also suffered significant losses.

Please support the APEC Recovery Fund in the amount of \$3 million. City support will mean that the small businesses and the City's non-profit organizations who bore the unintended negative effects of the APEC initiative can recover some portion of their economic loss. A thriving Yerba Buena is vital for a thriving San Francisco.

Thank you, Chair Connie Chan, for your work on this vital legislation.

Sincerely,

Linda Lucero

L.Lucero, *she/ella*
A guest on traditional, unceded Ramaytush Ohlone Land
Executive/Artistic Director
YBAE Yerba Buena Gardens Festival
760 Howard St. SF, CA 94103

Upcoming @ www.ybgfestival.org

FOLLOW us @ybgfestival | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

From: boonhiep@vietquanhouse.com
To: [Chan, Connie \(BOC\)](#); [Mojica, Myra \(BOC\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOC\)](#)
Cc: [Hahn, Brent \(BOC\)](#); [Friedrichs, Scott \(BOC\)](#)
Subject: L Taraval Construction Small Business Relief
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 5:28:52 PM
Attachments: [11757.jpg](#)

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

Dear Chair Chan and members of the Budget & Finance Committee,

I am the owner of Viet Quan Vietnamese Noodle House on 1757 Taraval Ave, San Francisco.

Please approve the \$1 million re-appropriations request from APEC reserves to small business relief due to L Taraval construction project impacts.

After the construction started our business has dropped 30%-40%. Some customers thought our restaurant was closed due to construction. Customers also complained about the noise from the construction.

I have attached some photos and videos of the construction regarding impacts to my restaurant.





Sincerely,
Benton Tang

From: [415sarkis](#)
To: [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: L Taraval construction small business relief
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 7:23:48 PM

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

My name is Sarkis Kaprielian my family owns Linda's Liquor and deli we have been doing buisness on taraval for over 35 years
Please help us and other small businesses on taraval survive this construction project thank you

Sent from my Galaxy

From: [FOAM Tea House](#)
To: [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#); [EngardioStaff \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: L Taraval Construction Small Business Relief
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 8:58:02 PM

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

Dear Chair Chan and members of the Budget & Finance Committee,

Please approve the \$1 million re-appropriations request from APEC reserves to small business relief due to L Taraval construction project impacts.

Taraval Street is a diverse neighborhood commercial corridor, with a 100+ mom-and-pop shops and eateries. A majority are owned by first and second generation families, and many are monolingual language speakers.

Like all small businesses, Taraval merchants suffered during the COVID-19 pandemic. But when COVID-19 subsided, the SFMTA's L Taraval Project began construction, leaving many small merchants on the verge of closing-up shop.

L Taraval construction has deterred customers due to parking issues, road closures, constant jackhammering and demolition, and lack of business access. Many former customers now head elsewhere and Taraval merchants need relief.

The city needs to provide Taraval merchants a lifeline. Please approve this \$1 million appropriations request for small business relief from L Taraval construction project impacts.

Thank you,

S.K
FOAM Tea House

From: [Tina Yu](#)
To: [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: L Taraval Construction Small Business Relief
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 10:09:41 PM

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

Dear Chair Chan and members of the Budget & Finance Committee,

Please approve the \$1 million re-appropriations request from APEC reserves to small business relief due to L Taraval construction project impacts.

Sincerely,

QiTing Lei

Dim sum Club(2237 Taraval Street)

From: [Goldberg, Jonathan \(BOS\)](#)
To: [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public comment - 2/7 BFC Item 8
Date: Wednesday, February 7, 2024 11:00:31 AM

From: H W <wongeyeoffice@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 7, 2024 9:47:15 AM
To: Chan, Connie (BOS) <connie.chan@sfgov.org>; Engardio, Joel (BOS) <joel.engardio@sfgov.org>;
Chow Albert <president@sf-pops.com>
Subject: Taraval Project Impact

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

Dear Supervisors,

There is a hearing today about the economic impact of the Taraval Project and as I am unable to attend the hearing, I am submitting this email. My name is Herbert Wong, OD, and my office is Parkside Optometry, located at 1816 Taraval Street. My office has been severely impacted by this project. Data from the 2021-2023, especially zeroing in on when the street around my office was haphazardly closed at random times. A clear indicator of the impact is on the total number of patients scheduled; as a sidenote, I did not have any changes in days off from 2021 to 2022 to 2023. From March 2021 to 2022 to 2023, my monthly patients schedule went from 50 to 65 to 36; April 2021 to 2022 to 2023, my monthly patients schedule went from 64 to 44 to 23; May 2021 to 2022 to 2023, my monthly patient schedule went from 66 to 62 to 57.

Thank you for your attention and for any assistance you can provide.

Sincerely,

Herbert Wong, OD

From: [Dennis Leary](#)
To: connie.chan@afgov.org; [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#); [Hsieh, Frances \(BOS\)](#); [Fieber, Jennifer \(BOS\)](#); [DeRuff, Henry \(BOS\)](#); [Jalpa, Brent \(BOS\)](#); [Tam, Madison \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: STRONGLY supporting Item 8. Yerba Buena needs all the help it can get. APEC was painful.
Date: Wednesday, February 7, 2024 11:05:25 AM

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

Dear Supervisors Chan, Melgar, and Mandelman:

My name is Dennis Leary and I own the House of Shields and the Sentinel, which I have operated in hands-on fashion for the past 16 years.

APEC was a brutal experience for my staff and the bottom line - a security cordon was set up directly in front of the businesses on New Montgomery, which effectively quashed all foot traffic.

As you may know, APEC was only the latest body blow in a series of hits that began with COVID. My businesses suffered from vandalism, neglect, Landlord bankruptcy, and escalated costs over the past 3 years, and APEC only made the pain worse. During the week of APEC my revenues were down 30-50%.

My staff is on the older side (many have been with me for 10+ years), and have families to support. As for myself I welcomed a newborn in September.

And as hard as it was for my businesses, my neighbors fared much worse.

I would encourage you to walk down New Montgomery st sometime to see the devastation on the blocks - almost every ground floor space is vacant.

So with this in mind I support raising the revenue backfill to 3M, if that is possible.

Thank you to Chair Chan for your hard work on this matter. It will not be forgotten.

Sincerely, Dennis Leary

cell: 775-440-8223

DL

From: [Lisbeth Mardona](#)
To: [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Hsieh, Frances \(BOS\)](#); [Fieber, Jennifer \(BOS\)](#); [DeRuff, Henry \(BOS\)](#); [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#); [Dorsey, Matt \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Re: APEC's impact on the Yerba Buena Community
Date: Thursday, February 8, 2024 1:20:03 PM

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

Good afternoon Chair Chan, Supervisor Mandelman, and Supervisor Melgar,

My name is Lisbeth Mardona, and I am writing from Benu restaurant, as one of the project managers there. While we were not able to attend yesterday's meeting at City Hall, we simply wanted to share our experience with the event.

As a restaurant located within a green security zone and just outside a red security zone, we definitely felt the effects of APEC that week. We had noticeably lower revenues, and for the guests who had initially decided to make reservations for that week, many opted to cancel as various information and updates regarding traffic control and restaurant access were being released. Operationally, many of our vendors were not able to reach us, including services for waste management. As a restaurant that works with a large number of various suppliers that deliver every day, the event brought these such challenges as well. In addition, our staff were also impacted in their commute to the restaurant, with some needing to spend additional hours getting to and from work.

Thank you Chair Chan for your attention to and work on this matter. We appreciate the opportunity to have our voice heard as well.

Sincerely,
Lisbeth Mardona

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Lisbeth Mardona
Benu | Monsieur Benjamin | San Ho Won
415.685.4860

From: [Jenny St. Martin](#)
To: [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Hsieh, Frances \(BOS\)](#); [Fieber, Jennifer \(BOS\)](#); [DeRuff, Henry \(BOS\)](#); [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: STRONGLY supporting item 8 to make the Yerba Buena community whole again
Date: Thursday, February 8, 2024 10:51:36 AM

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

Dear Chair Chan, Supervisor Mandelman, and Supervisor Melgar,

I trust this message finds you well. My name is Jenny St. Martin and I am one of the senior managers at The Cavalier restaurant located in downtown San Francisco at 360 Jessie Street off 5th, between Market Street and Mission Street.

I am reaching out to express our concerns regarding the impact of the APEC Summit on our business. The heightened security measures implemented in the vicinity of our business significantly reduced foot traffic and ultimately our sales making accessibility a challenge for our guests. Both visitors and locals were reluctant to navigate downtown due to increased traffic and security measures, and all of our previously booked clients canceled their private events. Ultimately, this resulted in a substantial decline in our sales with disastrous consequences to our P&L for this period. Typically, Q'4 brings holiday business and with it the ability to make up for slower times of the year. Sadly, the APEC Summit not only devastated our P&L for November, but our ability to stay profitable for the entire 2023 calendar year. While we were sold that the APEC Summit would drive significant business to the downtown areas, we experienced an unprecedented 40% deficit from our Q'4 annual budget when compared to 2022.

In light of these challenges, we at The Cavalier Restaurant wholeheartedly support the proposal to increase the APEC fund to 3 million dollars (\$). Such an adjustment would provide much-needed relief to businesses like ours that faced financial setbacks during what is traditionally a bustling time of the year.

We would also like to extend my personal gratitude to Chair Chan for her dedicated efforts on this important matter.

Thank you for your attention to this issue, and we hope for a positive resolution that benefits all affected businesses..

Cordially yours,

Jenny St. Martin & Team at The Cavalier Restaurant

From: [Michael H](#)
To: [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Chow, Albert](#); [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#); [EngardioStaff \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: L Taraval Construction Small Business Relief
Date: Wednesday, February 7, 2024 2:36:51 PM

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

Dear Chair Chan and members of the Budget & Finance Committee,

I hope this letter finds you well. My name is Michael Hsu, and I am the owner of Footprint, deeply rooted in the heart of our community in San Francisco's Sunset district. For over 25+ years, we have been proud to serve our neighborhood, offering the best selection of comfortable, mainstream shoes and apparel.

As you may be aware, the ongoing construction for the L Taraval Muni train, which commenced in 2022, has significantly impacted the daily operations and accessibility of local businesses, including ours. The prolonged nature of this construction has not only made it challenging for our customers to reach us but has also led to a noticeable decrease in foot traffic, critically affecting our sales. Specifically, our sales for November and December were down by 18% compared to the same period in 2022. This downturn has placed us in a precarious financial situation, further exacerbated by recent instances of burglaries and vandalism.

In light of these challenges, I am reaching out to solicit your support for the approval and implementation of a grant program designed to aid businesses adversely affected by this construction project. Such a grant would provide vital financial relief, enabling us to cover operational costs, enhance security measures, and implement marketing strategies to attract customers despite the ongoing construction. Many people who do not visit Taraval street often, have in the back of their mind, construction is going on and won't revisit for many months even after this project completes.

The resilience of local businesses like ours is crucial to the economic health and vibrancy of our community. By supporting us through these challenging times, the city can help preserve the unique character and spirit of our neighborhood, ensuring it remains a thriving and dynamic place for residents and visitors alike.

I respectfully urge you and your fellow council members to consider the profound impact the L Taraval Muni train construction has had on small businesses and to act swiftly in approving this much-needed grant. Your support would not only provide immediate relief but also signal the city's commitment to sustaining its local economy and the well-being of its communities.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this urgent matter. I am more than willing to discuss this proposal in further detail and provide any additional information required. Your timely response to this pressing issue would be greatly appreciated.

Please approve the \$1 million re-appropriations request from APEC reserves to small business

relief due to L Taraval construction project impact.

Attached are a few photos that have impacted our day to day business in 2022.

1. Photo showing heavy construction right in front of our store, including loud noise, and heavy vibration forcing us to keep our door closed. Potential customers cannot walk across the street, and try to avoid this entire area.
2. One day upon arriving at the store- our entrance was completely blocked off without advance notice. That day we made \$0 sales but yet beared the cost of our normal operating overhead.

Sincerely,
Michael Hsu

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Best Regards,
Mike H.

1701 Taraval St
San Francisco, CA 94116
Web: [Shop Footprint](#)
[Experience Our Footprint SF Flagship Store](#)
C: 415.706.6973



From: mdlebrun@comcast.net
To: [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Hsieh, Frances \(BOS\)](#); [Fieber, Jennifer \(BOS\)](#); [DeRuff, Henry \(BOS\)](#); [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: STRONGLY supporting item 8 to make the Yerba Buena community whole again
Date: Monday, February 12, 2024 4:52:36 PM

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

Dear Chair Chan, Supervisor Mandelman, and Supervisor Melgar,

We were unable to attend the meeting last Wednesday in regard to the significant impact that APEC had on our small business so I am writing this email to tell our specific story. Thank you in advance for taking the time to read this.

We are the owners of Café Madeleine at 149 New Montgomery Street (between Mission and Howard). As small business owners, we have experienced firsthand the disruptions and loss of income caused by this event.

Due to the high-profile attendees, security measures and road closures associated with APEC, it made it extremely difficult for customers and delivery drivers to access our business. As a bakery and café that does a large amount of catering to the Downtown area, it was also extremely difficult for us to make our own deliveries to customers, both wholesale and retail. The decreased foot traffic and disruptions to the area led to a sharp decline in sales overall during the summit period and the days leading up to it.

One of our main catering partners, Forkable, cancelled all orders for the whole week which amounts to about \$4000. We also lost most orders with other partners such as EZCater, DoorDash and Uber in addition to our own online ordering sales.

In addition to the loss of catering business discussed above, the sales in our café were down about 50% during the time Nov. 10-17th.

All in all, we would estimate a loss in sales of about \$20,000 - \$23,000 during the period of APEC.

We understand the importance of hosting international events but the needs of the local businesses and community were not taken into consideration. We had very little communication of how it was all going to be handled and it was extremely difficult for us. We were not even able to get our trash picked up.

We had already lost two of our three Café Madeleine locations due to the pandemic which is already devastating. We have spent the last 25 years building up our café, bakery and catering business so the loss of income from APEC was an additional hit to us.

We hope the legislation that would create a relief fund for businesses and organizations impacted by APEC is greatly considered for all the businesses that suffered financial losses during this time. We support increasing the amount of the fund to \$3 million.

It is essential that we work together to ensure that all businesses can thrive, even in the face of major events.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. It is greatly appreciated. We are grateful to Chair Chan for her work on this.

Sincerely,
Michelle L. Hong and Bernard Hong
Café Madeleine

Send to Clerk: Brent Jalipa brent.jalipa@sfgov.org

Dear Supervisors Chan, Mandelman and Melgar,

On behalf of the Golden Gate Restaurant Association, I am writing in support of Ordinance 240057 to authorize \$3,000,000 to the Office of Economic and Workforce Development (ECN) to support a relief fund for SOMA area business and organizations from direct APEC impacts and for a Small Business Transit Impact relief fund in the FY 2023-2024.

As has been widely reported, although APEC was in many ways highly successful, it presented numerous challenges for our restaurant community and other small businesses in SOMA. Due to the high-profile attendees, security measures and road closures, it was extremely difficult for customers and delivery drivers to access businesses. Many saw significantly decreased sales.

As such, we strongly support the creation of a relief fund for businesses and organizations impacted by APEC, so that they can be adequately compensated. We also support efforts to encourage SFMTA and city departments to establish concrete support programs to assist small businesses impacted by City's capital improvements citywide.

I thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,
Laurie Thomas

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laurie Thomas".

Executive Director
Golden Gate Restaurant Association

Cc: Supervisors Peskin and Dorsey