

Amendments to Mayor's Tenderloin Business Closure Legislation June 17, 2024

This updates our summary of June 14, 2024 to reflect a negotiated compromise with the Mayor's Office and stakeholders.

Our office has spent the past month speaking to residents, merchants, and other community stakeholders about the Mayor's proposal to shut down retail establishments in the Tenderloin after midnight. Through these discussions, one thing has become clear: everyone agrees that nighttime conditions in the Tenderloin need to change, and that the City isn't doing enough to address these conditions. We need to come together to support the residents and small businesses in the difficult environment in the Tenderloin.

Based on the feedback and negotiations with the Mayor's office and stakeholders, we have reached a deal that adds amendments that will protect vulnerable businesses in the neighborhood, including corner stores that serve the community at night. The amendments will allow corner stores (already strictly regulated by ABC) to stay open until 2am; modify the enforcement provisions to protect businesses from frivolous lawsuits; and add provisions to require outreach to businesses in language, enhanced neighborhood services, and a 6-month report on the impact of the pilot on small businesses and the neighborhood. The amendments also call on departments to undertake enforcement against businesses that are engaged in conduct that is already illegal, including illegal onsite gambling, fraud, or other health and safety violations.

We believe that these changes will allow the City to pilot this ordinance and work to address street conditions in the Tenderloin during nighttime hours while also protecting small businesses that are not doing anything wrong from unfair punishment. We want to thank all stakeholders for their collaboration and good faith efforts to come together around these improvements to the Ordinance.