

**From:** [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)  
**To:** [BOS-Supervisors](#)  
**Cc:** [BOS Legislation, \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: State of SF's restaurant industry  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 23, 2020 1:12:16 PM

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**From:** flicka mcgurrin <fmcg23@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 23, 2020 1:04 PM  
**To:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>  
**Subject:** State of SF's restaurant industry

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

We San Francisco restaurant owners appreciate the opportunity given to us by the board of supervisors at yesterday's meeting to air the direness of the present state of our industry.

Clearly the fact that the one tiny thread of outside dining that we business owners were celebrating by building parklets and allowing us to do a modicum of business has been seriously maligned by the metrics of Fred Rousseau and Dr. Susan Philip.

The determination of the city to strangle the restaurant business has been beholden to those metrics and yet the data does not hold up in terms of who gets infected by the virus and where.

It is important to note that anyone who becomes infected cannot blame any one thing for their unfortunate fate. Dr Phillips speaks as though we are all in kindergarten and need to be directed. Please note: we are responsible adults who pay our taxes. To have non-business, unelected professionals leading a nonsensical charge is unacceptable and compromises their credibility.

To ask of us restaurant owners to be closed, and yet still be responsible for rents, licenses and insurance, which (by the way) includes a workman's comp yearly contract based on a non-existent payroll and a closed facility is draconian.

Outside dining is not going to spread the corona virus anymore than what the spread has been throughout 2020.

It will be very unfortunate if we all have to either risk the legality of our business licensing by taking the future of our business into our own hands, or close.

Having heard that San Francisco has the most stringent requirements re: covid, clearly this has made no difference in the spread, we are no better or worse than other communities that are less strict. These requirements are killing us and the city that we love...nothing to be proud of.

Please let us open for outside dining.

Flicka McGurrin/Pier23Cafe and Sweetie's Art Bar

**From:** [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)  
**To:** [BOS-Supervisors](#)  
**Cc:** [BOS Legislation, \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: small business hearing  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 23, 2020 11:47:19 AM

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**From:** Jeff Hanak <jeff@lycsf.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 23, 2020 8:38 AM  
**To:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>  
**Subject:** small business hearing

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

Good morning. I am following up on the opportunity to present my thoughts and concerns to the SF Board of Supervisors, due to the fact that one minute did not allow ample time during the hearing.

December 23, 2020

To: San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
Subject: Small Business Relief

My name is Jeff Hanak and am a restaurant owner in San Francisco for the past 25 years. As we are all dealing in unprecedented times and uncharted territories. Covid has made it very clear our industry and our city are not fully equipped to properly manage our responsibilities. Restaurants are a vital part to our city, as related to tourism, employment, real estate value and our contributions to the city coffers. I am not going to cry foul of the past and ask that we all start to look forward to what our businesses and city will look like in the next 3 months, 6 months, year and beyond. As I am specifically discussing restaurants, we must look at our relationship as a partnership between business owners, employees, commercial landlords and third party vendors. In order for us to climb out of this, each partner must understand their specific role and benefit that it provides.

This is the first time ever, I have not built an annual budget for my business but am operating on a 90 day basis. This is due to the fact that I cannot trust our city departments in any decisions that have been properly communicated in advance for us to prepare our business for change. Health and safety are number one. When the most recent shelter in place was announced, a true partnership would present the following options in advance and not just a few days notice. If you are so concerned about small business and its employees, then you would find a way to prepare both for an additional downturn. Maybe demanding medical providers to provide free insurance to staff laid off until the shelter in place is lifted? Demanding companies like Doordash to cut charges due to the fact that they will see

increased sales volume with shelter in place.

We have seen a minimum wage increase in 2020, HCSO increase due next month. We have laid off 80% of our staff, as some city employees received raises during this time. I have closed 2 restaurants and am running at about 30% of sales volume to last year. When it comes time to reopen, rent will be due, we will not be able to ramp up to 100% capacity immediately without rehiring and training, that is costly and not sure where we will find staff. In addition, anyone who has had PPP is unsure of what type of forgiveness our industry will realize.

I thank you for the Shared Spaces program, even though on hold at the moment. Hope you will advocate for the ABC rules which allow us to continue to sell alcohol to go. This has been one ray of hope.

I call on the board and the mayor to revisit measures that directly impact our small businesses. I am not asking to remove past legislation, but am asking to see if what has been in place makes sense anymore and adjust that is more equitable for everyone involved. We need relief and stimulus at the same time.

- The process in determining the rate per hour for contribution to HCSO is unrealistic to not have a cap. I am all for providing healthy benefits but do feel that there has to be a realization this cost should not only be passed onto the business owner. In addition, not sure why the cost for a large employer – more than 100 is higher than a small employer. Realistically the cost to provide insurance by large employers is more cost effective than a small employer going to the market. A portion of cost could go to health insurance and the remainder to some optional benefits, such as paying down student loans. Ultimately as we have seen during this pandemic, requiring employers to provide insurance doesn't work when we can't continue operating.
- Paid sick leave is something that employers should have the option to control in a way that could benefit employees. Why not give the option as PTO instead that would open up the hours to be used not only for sick leave.
- Minimum wage increases still aren't enough for any employee to live in SF. But as an employer and wanting to distribute wages in a more equitable manner, much higher than minimum wage, the antiquated regulation on tipping vs the use of a service charge needs to be revisited. Tipping needs to leave our industry but the taxes levied on service charges greatly reduces the ability to turn any profit in our industry.

We have available kitchens to cook for our city. There are some organizations that we have connected with but severely underfunded and we can be a great resource to cook for our city and serve our neighbors that don't have access to food. This is where the city can use it

resources to align our small business in the right direction.

San Francisco is my home, restaurants are what I do for a living. We definitely run on low margins, so any downturn really hits us and we do not have the type of cash reserves to support us. The actions taken by our city government paints a clear picture that small business is not as valued, say a large tech company. So as someone who takes great risk in opening a business, San Francisco will not be my choice of city to do business in the near future, unless we recognize the need to work closer together.

Please get us involved in any decisions that may be well intentioned but in practice do not work.

Thank you,  
Jeff Hanak



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**From:** [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)  
**To:** [BOS-Supervisors](#)  
**Cc:** [BOS Legislation, \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: public comment to be added from today's agenda  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 23, 2020 11:47:02 AM

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**From:** Isa & Kenzie <hello@yotambientropical.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 22, 2020 7:48 PM  
**To:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>  
**Subject:** public comment to be added from today's agenda

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

Hello there,

My name is Kenzie Benesh. I was listening to the full Board of Supervisors meeting today and had called in to speak re: small businesses.

My call had to end before I made my comment directly, so here it is via email:

My wife and I own a small restaurant in the Inner Sunset called the Yo También Cantina. We are a queer, Latino & women owned business, and very proud of it.

Small businesses like ours (especially cafes and restaurants) need help now and NEED to be prioritized with city spending in order for our survival.

Small businesses bring culture, diversity, and vibrancy to SF - they are what make SF SF !

Outdoor dining needs to resume when safe to do so. asap. And the Shared Spaces permit needs to become PERMANENT.

We do not need deferred sales tax and fees, these taxes and licenses need to be waived. We need more grants and funding, not loans to keep us in debt.

The people working in the various city departments need to work together. The time is now.

Thank you for your time,

- Kenzie Benesh & Isabella Bertorelli

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**From:** [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)  
**To:** [BOS-Supervisors](#)  
**Cc:** [BOS Legislation, \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public comment on items 6-8, December 22, 2020 special meeting  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 23, 2020 11:46:25 AM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Lapo <lapo@emtab.org>  
Sent: Tuesday, December 22, 2020 5:58 PM  
To: Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>  
Subject: Public comment on items 6-8, December 22, 2020 special meeting

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

This is a public comment addressed to the special meeting of the full Board to be held on Tuesday, December 22, 2020, in relation to agenda items 6 through 8, pertaining to the impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on local businesses, and the City's relief strategy.

My name is Lapo Guzzini, and I have been involved in organizing cultural and social activities in San Francisco for more than a decade. This has included five years owning and operating The Emerald Tablet, an award-winning gallery and gathering place in North Beach. I consider myself fortunate to live in a place where bars, coffee shops, bookstores and other locally owned businesses are not only services, but unique cultural institutions in their own right, critical to our city's its standing throughout the world. I have watched them reopen for a few precious weeks, making strenuous efforts to adhere to all the City's public health guidelines, so that they could continue to play this invaluable role.

As members of the creative community, I and others have responded, trying to help drive business by crafting cultural events that could be safely paired with outdoor dining. I have witnessed, from within, an alliance of artists, service industry workers, and business owners rise to this unprecedented challenge. It wasn't enough. With the new shelter-in-place order, many of these vital epicenters are on the brink of closure. The City must either reopen outdoor dining, or work to provide immediate relief—in the form of cash grants, business loan forgiveness, fee waivers, and any other available means necessary—to ensure the survival of these irreplaceable parts of San Francisco.

We, local residents, workers, and business owners, have supported, implemented, and helped enforce the City's decisive COVID-19 response.

We have done our best to live within its allowances. It is time to give us the support we need to endure, until this pandemic is behind us.

Lapo Guzzini  
District 3 resident



**From:** [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)  
**To:** [BOS-Supervisors](#)  
**Cc:** [BOS Legislation, \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Comment for BOS Hearing Dec 22  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 22, 2020 5:08:01 PM

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**From:** Outerlands Admin <admin@outerlandssf.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 22, 2020 4:57 PM  
**To:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>  
**Subject:** Comment for BOS Hearing Dec 22

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

December 22, 2020

RE: Board of Supervisors Hearing

Dear SF Board of Supervisors,

As a small restaurant owner, I am writing to implore you to lift up our desperate industry as you make decisions regarding relief programs. Our family restaurant has been closed since March, and we have utilized every possible avenue for staying afloat. Yet after so many months of struggle, without effective relief we will soon be facing bankruptcy. Our goal is to come through this, and to again provide the jobs and services we have been so proud to bring to our community, but we cannot do this without swift action from our City leaders.

With the RESTAURANTS Act off the table for this round of stimulus, we are begging our local leaders to advocate for our industry as follows:

–PPP was designed for corporate structures which had the capability to pivot toward work from home models. Consequently, its application to restaurants was sorely limited, and left many of us effectively without aid. As we saw from the presentations early in today’s BOS hearing, corporate sectors are staying afloat, while small brick and mortar businesses are drowning. We need direct aid that allows restaurants to address a broader range of general business expenses: we can’t retain employees if we can’t afford to reopen.

–SF must waive small business fees and taxes for 2020 and 2021. We will not be in any better position to pay fees like registration, payroll tax, unsecured property tax, etc. later in the year than we are now. Similarly, we need immediate intervention on the part of City leaders regarding back rent, especially in cases where commercial landlords have provided no respite. What will SF do in April/May, when businesses are faced with the impossible dilemma of paying these outstanding bills or shutting down?

–COVID has disproportionately affected restaurant industry workers, both in terms of health risks and financial impacts. With the closure of our small business alone, over 50 hardworking San Franciscans have been left unemployed, many of whom have received little to no relief. In particular, undocumented workers– who continue to be, at higher risk to their health and safety, the backbone of our City– have been left completely without aid. These workers need direct aid, along with rent relief and specific unemployment benefit options.

–Like us, many small businesses had pledged their homes as collateral to achieve financing, and are now at risk of foreclosure due to COVID-related default or bankruptcy. Our leaders must establish protections for small business owners who are facing, through no fault of their own, the loss of their homes. We are a husband-wife team, with a family restaurant funded entirely by bank loans. Because of COVID related shut downs, we are at risk of losing not only our careers, but the home we have worked so hard to secure for our family.

Thank you for your support of restaurants, and for your consideration of our pleas.

Sincerely,

Lana Porcello

Outerlands Restaurant

Outerlands  
4001 Judah St., SF  
[outerlandssf.com](http://outerlandssf.com)

**From:** [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)  
**To:** [BOS-Supervisors](#)  
**Cc:** [BOS Legislation, \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Comments for BOS Hearing Dec 22  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 22, 2020 5:07:47 PM

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**From:** Outerlands Admin <admin@outerlandssf.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 22, 2020 4:51 PM  
**To:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>  
**Subject:** Comments for BOS Hearing Dec 22

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December 22, 2020

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Sincerely,

Lana Porcello

Outerlands Restaurant

Outerlands  
4001 Judah St., SF  
[outerlandssf.com](http://outerlandssf.com)

**From:** [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)  
**To:** [BOS-Supervisors](#)  
**Cc:** [BOS Legislation, \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: The Grove restaurants: Public Comment to be entered into the record for today's BOS hearing  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 22, 2020 5:07:12 PM

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**From:** Kenneth Zankel <kzankel@thegrovesf.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 22, 2020 2:28 PM  
**To:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>  
**Cc:** Laurie Thomas <laurie@niceventures.com>; Laurie Thomas <laurie@ggra.org>; Anna Zankel <azankel@thegrovesf.com>; Ken Zankel <kzankel@thegrovesf.com>  
**Subject:** The Grove restaurants: Public Comment to be entered into the record for today's BOS hearing

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Good Afternoon,

This is Kenneth and Anna Zankel, co-owners of The Grove restaurants.

We opened the first Grove in 1999. Over the ensuing years we built a company, with 4 restaurants, and 170 employees.

All of this was self-financed. No venture capital, no private equity. Everything on the line.

Our Hayes location is closed for good; without the performing arts it can not survive.

Our Fillmore location is currently closed. There is a bus shelter in front making Shared Spaces sidewalk seating max out at 9 seats which does not work. There is a bus stop in the street in front, so we can not have a parklet. The carrying costs are \$12,000 a month to hold on.

Our Yerba Buena location is one we would like to do takeout and outdoor seating with. However, the only restaurant within blocks that is open for takeout and (formerly) outdoor seating closed their outdoor seating 6 weeks ago. The area so filled with crazy people off their meds and in need of help, as well as criminals, tbut no workers or hotel guests on the street, that this restaurant removed their outdoor seating because it was an ongoing risk to employees and customers, with multiple incidents. So we will not open there unless the city fulfills its responsibility to make running a business there not an act of putting people's lives in danger. Or until we can anticipate an amount of business to

pay for a security guard.

That leaves our Design District location. We spent a fortune to get an awning on the patio, make it beautiful with ceramic pots and trees and flowers and art and heaters. We were able to hire back 40 people. We went well beyond the city's mandated safety procedures. We lost money every single day anyway. But we kept going. It was a way to hang in there, and also to look forward. And to provide jobs to our beloved crew.

Meanwhile, our life's work had been gutted.

Then you kicked us all while we were collectively on our knees.

On 55 hours notice, you shut down our only method of losing only some money as opposed to an unsustainable amount of money. Not only is the patio gone - which we would venture was safer to be on than most homes - but also the Shared Spaces seating on the sidewalk where many of those getting pickup would eat.

Further, we were pretty much the only restaurant in the Design District of scale that was open in any capacity, thereby bringing some life and vibrancy and safety to an otherwise cleared out neighborhood but for the tent encampments.

We had to let 20 people go.

Because you issued this order on a Friday afternoon with a Sunday deadline, we had an absolutely chaotic, frenzied, panicked next 3 days, It meant hours needed to be calculated for payroll, paycheck amounts, benefits, tax deductions, communications in English and Spanish to all employees, decisions made on who stays and who gets furloughed, individual meetings with each person being furloughed, Feed Boxes ordered from Sonoma and dry goods ordered from our suppliers so our furloughed workers could have food the next few weeks, personal money invested - again - into the business, so we could give each furloughed employee a bonus to try and make it through the next couple of weeks. That money was not sitting around from earnings As you may or may not know, the PPP allowed for an owner to take a maximum of \$20,833.00. That is what we each have been paid from March 15 - today. Hard talks, tears shed. Oh, and the payroll company was closed fo the weekend.

You did this based not scientific evidence that had been peer-reviewed and found valid. Rather, on data that mixed indoor and outdoor dining, anecdotes, and faulty if/then scenarios.

Were there bad actors in outdoor dining? Yes. Did you single them out? No. What you did was the equivalent of saying "some people drive drunk and speed, so we will shut down driving."

Further, you did it with no good reason given for why, if it must be done, it needed to be done in 55 hours, as opposed to 5 days later, for example.

Now these people have to go back on unemployment. many do not have computer skills. We solved this the last time around by filling out their forms for them and delivering to each address with a stamped envelope so each person could just sign and mail it. That can not be done this time.

The city is providing these people with ZERO.

The direct relief for small businesses from this city has been a pitiful joke. A few million dollars. Hardly anyone, percentage wise, got any of it. The top 30 city employees as far as wages go make more than that cumulatively. You have cut No Jobs. Surely, with parklets, there can not be the same need for the same number of meter maids? Yes, you have contracts with employees Well, in our business, we had a lot of "normal" that is gone. We had to cut expenses. Period. We are not shutting on Zoom calls and getting paid. Our businesses are dying.

Deferred fees or payroll taxes are exactly that - deferred. When do you think we will make the money to pay them?

This city needs to stop whining about its budget being less than it expected. For small businesses, and restaurants in particular, EVERYTHING is less than expected. There is no Santa Claus and no Tooth Fairy.

We expect the following, at the very (!) least:

- Decisions based on science not hunches
  
- Reasonable notice given so decisions can be made and paperwork done that comports to the law, and an opportunity for employee to provide human decency to employees being let go
  
- The streets and sidewalks PATROLLED. By POLICE

- Financial aid to our laid off employees

- Financial aid to small and medium sized businesses. The grants given so far could not sustain most of our businesses for more than 2 weeks

- Fees and taxes abated, not deferred.

Thank you.

Kenneth and Anna Zankel

Kenneth Zankel  
President / Founder

**The Grove**  
Design District / Fillmore / Hayes / Yerba Buena

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[415.254.9315](tel:415.254.9315)

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[kzankel@TheGroveSF.com](mailto:kzankel@TheGroveSF.com)  
[TheGroveSF.com](http://TheGroveSF.com)

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**From:** [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)  
**To:** [BOS-Supervisors](#)  
**Cc:** [BOS Legislation, \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Letter Regarding Tomorrows Emergency Meeting  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 22, 2020 10:08:17 AM  
**Attachments:** [image003.png](#)  
[Letter to SF Supervisors.pdf](#)

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**From:** Toy Soldier Events <events@toysoldiersf.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 22, 2020 9:44 AM  
**To:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>  
**Subject:** FW: Letter Regarding Tomorrows Emergency Meeting

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Hello,

This email was sent over 24 hours ago with no response. I would like to make sure it the letter and email will be made part of the public records in response to the initial resolution and today's emergency meeting.

Thank you and Happy Holidays,

Christine Scirto

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**From:** Toy Soldier Events  
**Sent:** Monday, December 21, 2020 7:37 AM  
**To:** [samuel.bennett@sfgov.org](mailto:samuel.bennett@sfgov.org); [frankie.falzon@sfgov.org](mailto:frankie.falzon@sfgov.org); [Matt.Haney@sfgov.org](mailto:Matt.Haney@sfgov.org); [mandelmanstaff@sfgov.org](mailto:mandelmanstaff@sfgov.org); [Gordon.Mar@sfgov.org](mailto:Gordon.Mar@sfgov.org); [Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org](mailto:Aaron.Peskin@sfgov.org); [prestonstaff@sfgov.org](mailto:prestonstaff@sfgov.org); [Sandra.Fewer@sfgov.org](mailto:Sandra.Fewer@sfgov.org); [RonenStaff@sfgov.org](mailto:RonenStaff@sfgov.org); [Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org](mailto:Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org); [Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org](mailto:Catherine.Stefani@sfgov.org); [Shamann.Walton@sfgov.org](mailto:Shamann.Walton@sfgov.org); [Norman.Yee@sfgov.org](mailto:Norman.Yee@sfgov.org); [MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org](mailto:MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org)  
**Subject:** Letter Regarding Tomorrows Emergency Meeting

Hello Mayor London Breed , San Francisco Supervisors and Team,

Thank you Catherine Stefani for your resolution and moving forward with the emergency meeting tomorrow. Many employees, small business and restaurant & bars owners are grateful to start this conversation. I have attached a letter to this email with some thoughts and facts in response to the resolution and the current climate that most employees, small business, restaurants and bars are currently struggling with. Thank you again for taking the time to start this conversation and I hope it is the start to more productive talks and solutions.

All the best,

Christine Marie Scirto  
AGM and Event Manager

Toy Soldier SF  
52 Belden Pl, San Francisco, CA 94101  
Direct: 415-583-5789  
Email: [events@toysoldiersf.com](mailto:events@toysoldiersf.com)  
[www.toysoldiersf.com](http://www.toysoldiersf.com)



Hello Samuel, Frankie, and San Francisco Supervisors,

Thank you for scheduling an emergency meeting to discuss the dire situation that our small business and its workers are experiencing. In an effort to save some time during the meeting, We would like to address a few issues included in your resolution before the Tuesday meeting, as well as some additional comments and facts. We hope this is a start to a constructive and solution orientated dialogue.

The Restaurant Relief Resolution currently states the following:

**Resolution urging the United States Congress to provide immediate cash relief to restaurants and urging the State of California to *allow outdoor dining as soon as the latest available medical data and expertise deem it safe to do so.***

There was no medical data or any “risk-benefit” data used to make the decision to close outdoor dining On December 6<sup>th</sup> or before. In the Stay At Home Order that was posted on December 4, 2020 there was no mention that the parklets had contributed to the increase of COVID cases in the last few months or were directly responsible for the decreasing percentage of available hospital beds. That data did not exist and therefore was not mentioned as a reason for the closure. As a matter of fact, the reason given for the outdoor dining shutdown was because of the decrease in the percentage of hospital beds. There was absolutely no data proving a connection between the increase in COVID 19 cases, lack of hospital beds and outdoor dining. <https://sfmayor.org/article/san-francisco-join-bay-area-counties-preemptively-adopt-californias-regional-stay-home-order>

The shutdown during the month of December was crippling to small business and restaurants for the following reasons:

- Many restaurants used a great deal of their PPP loans and their savings to build these parklets and outdoor structures because the government and medical experts continuously preached that this was the safest way to proceed.
- Not only did these restaurant owners build these parklets, but they also paid for roofs, dividers, sanitizers, paper menus, heaters and much more to comply with city rules and city suggestions to make people safe during the pandemic. The cost was ongoing and

astronomical. Many small businesses continued to adapt and continued to spend money to comply as rules continued to change throughout the pandemic.

- December is typically the busiest month of the year for restaurants and by informing restaurants that they must close outdoor seating within 48 hours, most restaurants took a huge financial hit again, as they were forced to throw away hundreds and thousands of dollar's worth of products that went unused.
- Many small business and service workers live paycheck to paycheck and this order cut off their income immediately. Not allowing them to provide for their family's during the holidays or pay their rent. Going back on unemployment is not an immediate solution for this industry. Unemployment takes weeks to kick in and at \$450.00 per week, after taxes that is not enough to survive in San Francisco, even with the mass exodus of people leaving the city.

Because of these reasons, we feel that our elected officials should be working tirelessly to prove that their suggestion of outdoor dining and all of the cost incurred in developing the shared spaces program are indeed safe and are not the reason for the increase in COVID19 cases throughout the bay area. We do not feel that waiting to ***allow outdoor dining as soon as the latest available medical data and expertise deem it safe to do so*** is an option for any of us at this point. **We need our elected officials to support our local small business and service workers and reopen our business immediately.**

Another point that was mentioned in the new release on December 4<sup>th</sup> was the following:

***"In addition to the measures the City is taking in order to reduce close interactions by people from different households, the City is increasing its focus on compliance and enforcement activities."***

Outdoor playgrounds were ordered to close in the December 4<sup>th</sup> news release: ***Outdoor playgrounds. Public playgrounds including climbing structures and walls, slides swings, sand pits, etc. must close.***

It is difficult to say exactly how many people are employed as nannies or childcare supervisors in San Francisco. The majority of nannies or childcare supervisors are believed to be paid under the table because that service can be extremely expensive in an already expensive city. The fact

is the majority of these employees come from different households. When the outdoor playgrounds were closed, most of these employees traveled from their house to the homes of the parents and children they were supervising.

Four days after the December 6<sup>th</sup> SIP order, Mayor London Breed opened the playgrounds back up. This essentially meant the following:

1. Nannies or childcare supervisors from other households could go to the homes of the parents and children they watch.
2. Nannies or childcare supervisors can take the children for walks to the park, where the kids can play on the same equipment that other kids play on, without anyone sanitizing any equipment as each child uses it.
3. Nannies or childcare supervisors from different households can congregate with nannies or childcare supervisors from different households with or without masks.
4. Children from different households can play with children from different households.
5. There is no one monitoring how many people come and go from the playgrounds at any time.

The reality of the open playgrounds is that multiple people from different households are congregating for hours at a time, sharing the same space and structures, not standing 6ft apart, and not sanitizing structures or wearing masks outside, but outdoor dining where you are separated by dividers, are required to sanitize tables and chairs as each guest leaves, the staff is required to wear masks, everyone is required to be seated, and the number of guests at a table is 6 is not permitted. **We are calling on our elected officials to explain what data or “risk-benefit analysis” was used to make the decision to reopen playgrounds and continue to keep our restaurants, bars and outdoor parklets closed.**

Before the pandemic and throughout the pandemic we have had a homeless and a crime problem in San Francisco. The pandemic has only made these issues worse.

The city and hospitality/tourism industry lost numerous conventions, including Oracle before the pandemic because executives felt the price tag to bring their employees here was way too high in a dirty, crime ridden city. You cannot walk down Chestnut Street or up Buchanan before 9am or after 10pm without being harassed by homeless or criminals. If you walk through the Tenderloin, there is no social distancing, masks etc. Just a bunch of homeless or vagrants spending their welfare checks on drugs and alcohol. Calling 311 does not help, on many

circumstances they were ineffective or just never showed up or followed through. However, if someone calls 311 and complains regarding a restaurant there is a representative on site the next business day with his clipboard and paper in hand. Any vagrant can break into a car, business or home and escape punishment or fine, but if a small business breaks one of the SIP rules accidentally or ignorantly the price can be extremely high after putting in thousands of dollars to comply with the rules. It was a priority for London Breed to house the homeless in hotels and give them pot and alcohol. Now there is a deficit on the mayor's budget, and the mayor needs to find a solution. London Breed made a statement regarding the homeless population and budget discrepancy last week and the mayor stated the following:

**“Evictions are devastating to the health, security, and wellbeing of people who face them.”**

**“We are talking about people's lives, their health, and their safety.”**

<https://londonbreed.medium.com/setting-the-record-straight-hotels-to-housing-4276ac00dff7>

**We are asking our elected officials to explain why small businesses and its employees have been left out of the solution finding process and why the city has not found a solution to the deteriorating tourism industry that is the lifeline of many small businesses.**

You can go to the grocery store or target and not stand 6ft apart, grab your bags at baggage claim at the airport (with people from multiple flights from all over standing directly next to you) , sit less than six feet away from someone on a airplane for hours, grab a revel scooter or Lyft bike ( multiple people use these in a day and I have never seen a employee from these companies sanitizing the equipment before the next person rents it ), go to a house party or a gathering ( which has increased in our opinion since the SIP ), drink your coffee on the street with others ( even though you are not supposed to consume your purchased to go food or drinks on the street ) and many other freedoms without the city policing your business or showing up the next business day with a clipboard to explain the rules over and over again. If you are an owner or employee of a restaurant or bar, it is a completely different experience. Yet, with restaurants closed and business suppressed for the second time, the COVID cases are still climbing and the curve is nowhere near flattened. We must wonder, would city funds and attention be better used in other areas to make an impact and decrease the number of COVID19 cases?

We apologize for the length of this letter and we certainly have more to say, but we hope this is a start of finding solutions for small business, restaurants, bars and their employees. We are looking forward to working with all of you to find solutions, but we simply can not afford for these solutions to happen any later than today. Thank you for your time and we look forward to speaking with you all on Tuesday.