

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

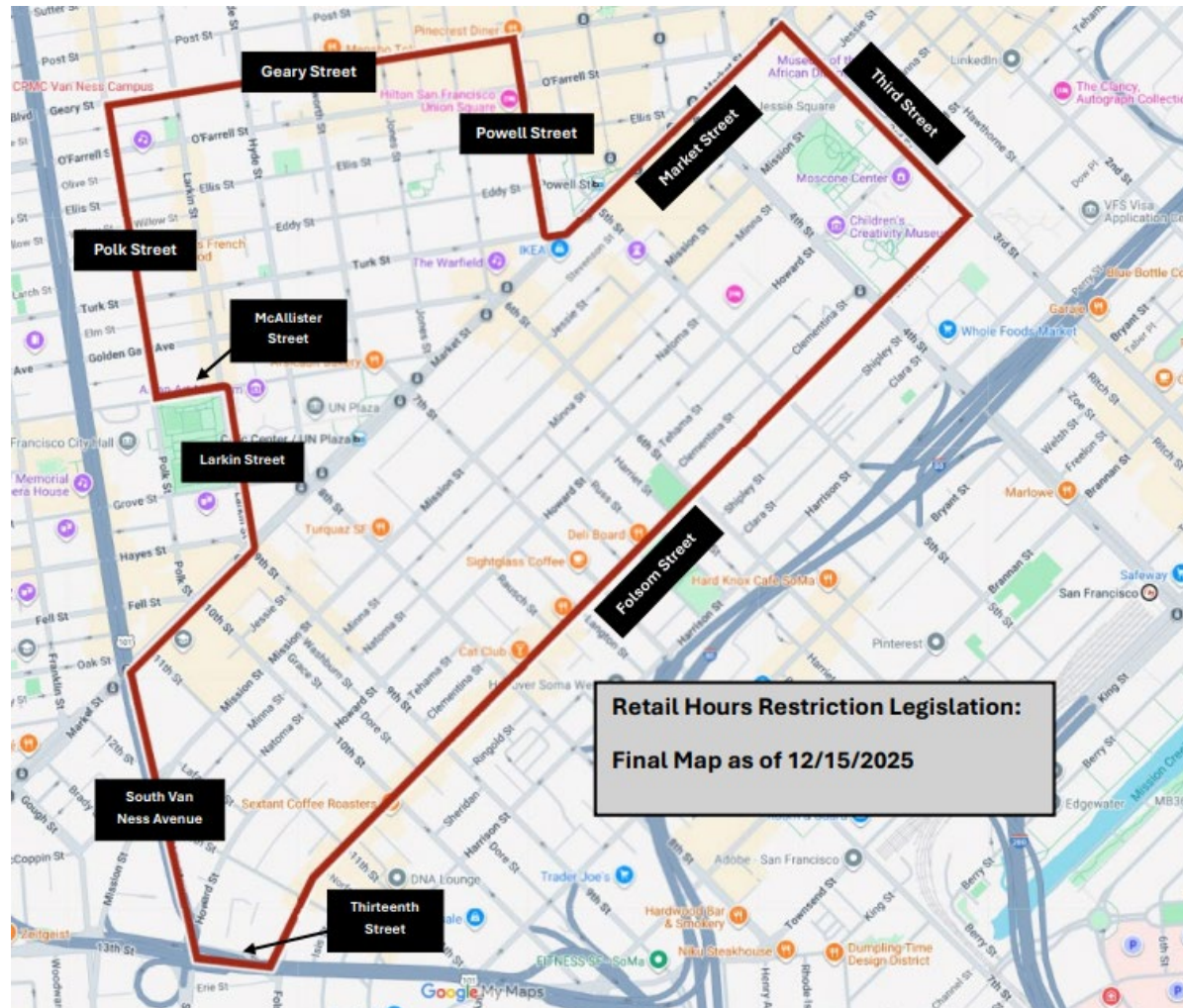
Ordinance Overview

- 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

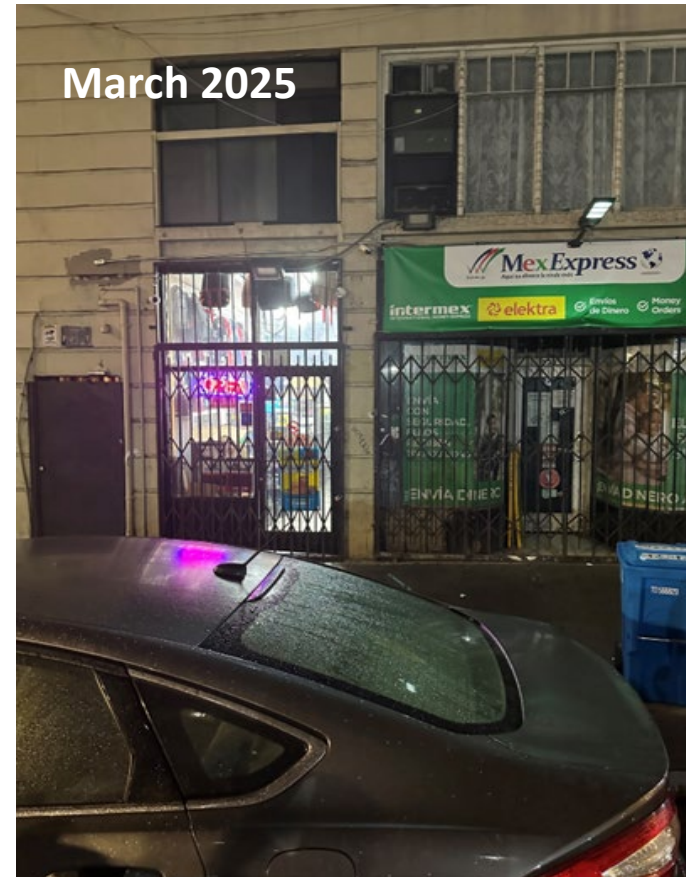
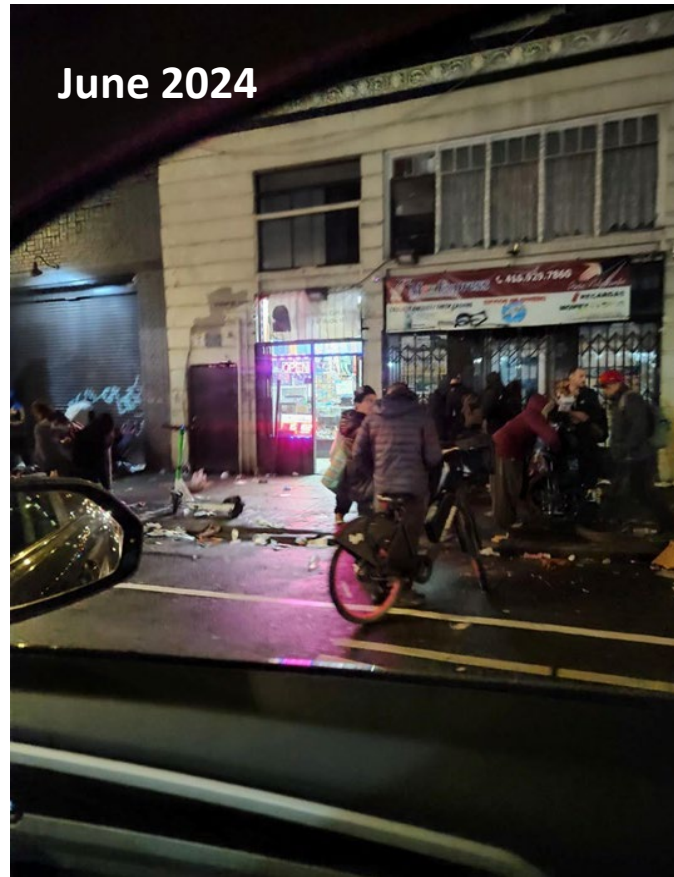
Map of Proposed Expanded Public Safety Area



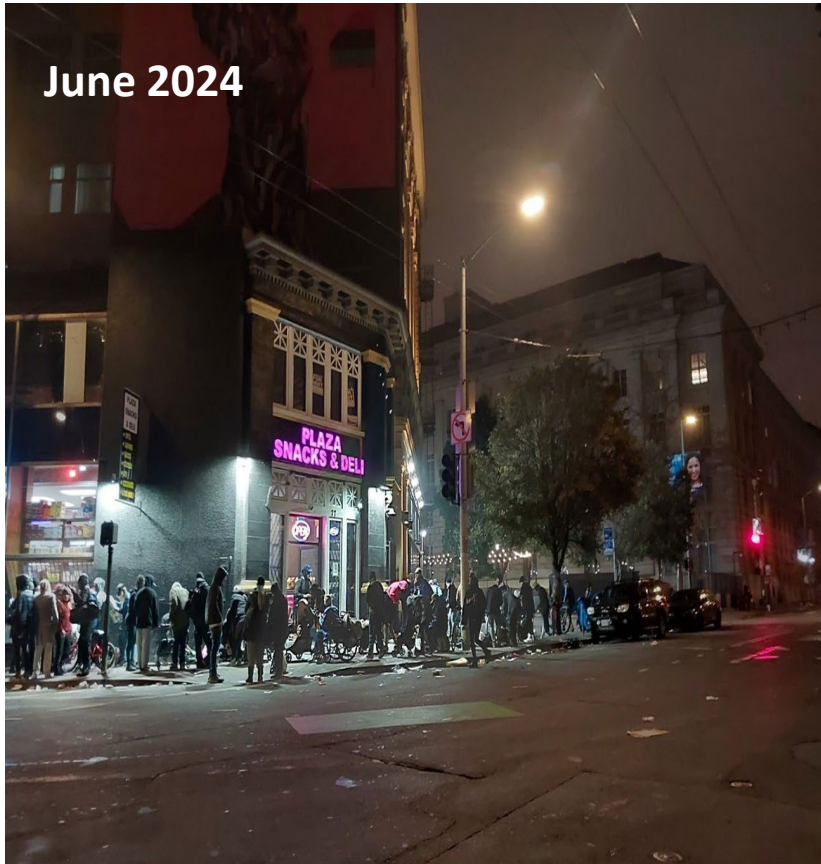
Quantitative Outcomes in the Original Public Safety Area

- **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

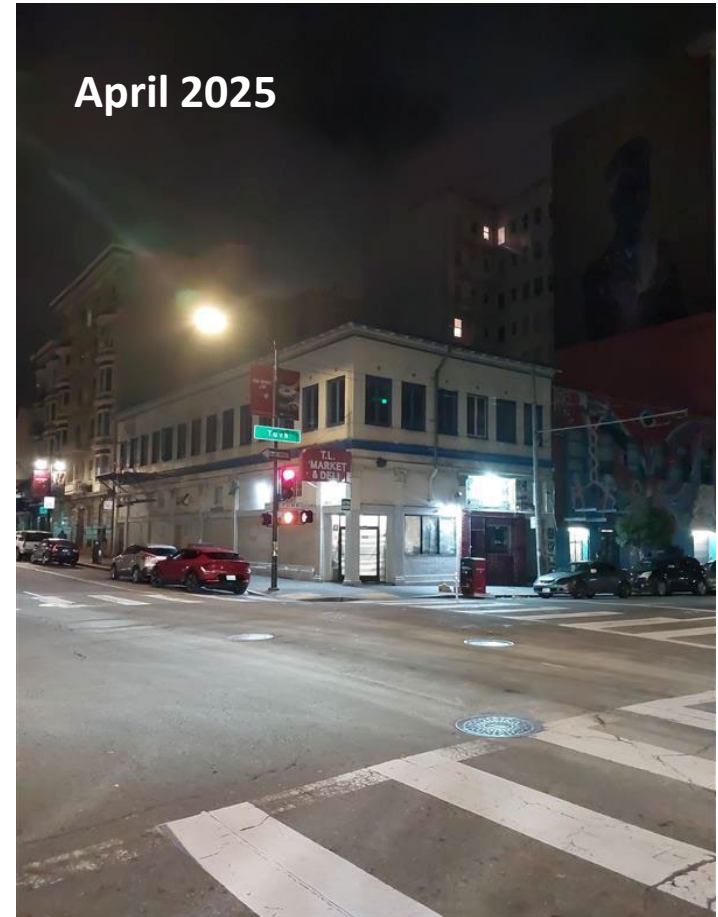
Point in Time Qualitative Outcomes in the Original Public Safety Area



149 Hyde Street (after midnight)



77 McAllister Street (after midnight)

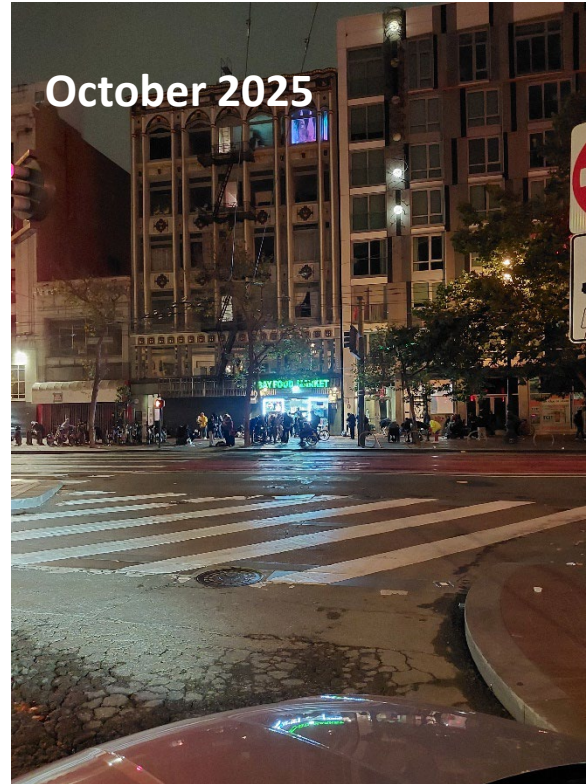


200 Leavenworth Street

Current Conditions in the Proposed Expanded Public Safety Area



1010 Market Street (4 a.m.)



1073 Market Street (4 a.m.)



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!