

File No. 250817

Committee Item No. 1

Board Item No. 02

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

AGENDA PACKET CONTENTS LIST

Committee: Land Use and Transportation

Date: Sept. 15, 2025

Board of Supervisors Meeting:

Date: Oct. 7, 2025

Cmte Board

☐	☐	Motion
☐	☐	Resolution
☒	☒	Ordinance
☒	☒	Legislative Digest
☐	☐	Budget and Legislative Analyst Report
☐	☐	Youth Commission Report
☒	☒	Introduction Form
☐	☐	Department/Agency Cover Letter and/or Report
☐	☐	MOU
☐	☐	Grant Information Form
☐	☐	Grant Budget
☐	☐	Subcontract Budget
☐	☐	Contract / DRAFT Mills Act Agreement
☐	☐	Form 126 – Ethics Commission
☐	☐	Award Letter
☐	☐	Application
☐	☒	Public Correspondence

OTHER

☒	☒	<u>CEQA Determination – August 25, 2025</u>
☒	☒	<u>Referrals CEQA and FYI – August 7, 2025</u>
☐	☐	<u> </u>
☐	☐	<u> </u>
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Prepared by: John Carroll

Date: Sept. 12, 2025

Prepared by: John Carroll

Date: Sept. 26, 2025

Prepared by:

Date:

[Public Works Code - Public Works Graffiti Abatement Program]

Ordinance amending the Public Works Code to authorize Public Works to perform graffiti abatement on private properties in commercial areas at no cost to property owners, solely at property owners' request and upon property owners' authorization and property owners' waiver of claims associated with the graffiti abatement; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

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

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

Section 1. Land Use Findings. The Planning Department has determined that the actions contemplated in this ordinance comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (California Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq.). Said determination is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. 250817 and is incorporated herein by reference. The Board of Supervisors ("Board") affirms this determination.

Section 2. General Findings. On August 4, 2022, the City adopted Ordinance No. 174-22, which created a pilot program enabling the Department of Public Works ("Public Works") to perform graffiti abatement on private property following receipt of the owners' written consent, at no cost to the property owner. Commercial property owners and small

1 businesses have appreciated the services provided under this program and the program has
2 resulted in meaningful abatement of graffiti in commercial corridors. Based on the success of
3 the pilot program, the Board wishes to create a permanent graffiti abatement program in
4 commercial corridors.

5
6 Section 3. Article 23 of the Public Works Code is hereby amended by revising
7 Section 2306, to read as follows:

8 **SEC. 2306. ABATEMENT BY DIRECTOR.**

9 * * * *

10 (e) **Graffiti Abatement Program in Commercial Corridors**~~Areas: Pilot Program. Within~~
11 ~~90 days of the effective date of the ordinance in Board File No. 220538 adding this subsection (e), the~~
12 ~~Director shall create a pilot program. As an alternative to the other abatement procedures in this~~
13 ~~Article 23, the Director shall administer a Commercial Corridor Graffiti Abatement Program~~
14 ~~("Abatement Program")~~ that allows property owners in Commercial Corridors to provide written
15 consent authorizing Public Works to enter onto their property and remove graffiti, as described
16 further below, provided that Public Works has sufficient funds to operate this program. The Director is
17 authorized to issue regulations consistent with the Abatement Program.

18 (1) Opt-In Program. Property owners in Commercial Corridors may elect to
19 participate in the Abatement Program by providing Public Works with written consent as set forth
20 herein. The scope of any graffiti abatement shall be consistent with the scope of abatement
21 provided in subsection (d)(1). Such removal and abatement shall be offered at no cost to the
22 property owner, provided that the owner waives any claims arising from the work, ~~other than~~
23 ~~any claims for damages arising from negligence or non-compliance with laws. The pilot program is an~~
24 ~~alternative to the other abatement procedures in this Article 23, and a~~ 1 property owner may enroll in
25 the ~~pilot~~ Abatement pProgram at any time, including upon receipt of a Notice of Violation;

1 provided, however, that a property owner who contests the Notice of Violation shall be
2 ineligible to participate in the program. ~~The Director is authorized to issue regulations consistent~~
3 ~~with this subsection (e).~~

4 ~~(2)(4)~~ **Commercial Corridors.** For purposes of the Abatement Program~~this~~
5 ~~subsection (e)~~, Commercial Corridors shall mean~~include~~ properties in the following areas:
6 Neighborhood Commercial Districts, Named Neighborhood Commercial Districts,
7 Neighborhood Commercial Transit Districts, and Named Neighborhood Commercial Transit
8 Districts, as listed in Section 201 of the Planning Code, and defined in Section 702 of the
9 Planning Code; the Chinatown Community Business District, as defined in Planning Code
10 Section 810; the Chinatown Residential/Neighborhood Commercial District as defined in
11 Planning Code Section 812; and the Chinatown Visitor Retail District, as defined in Planning
12 Code Section 811.

13 ~~(3)(2)~~ **Relationship to Community Benefits Districts and Green Benefits**
14 **Districts.** The owner of any property located in a Community Benefits District or Green
15 Benefits District, as defined in Articles 15 and 15A of the Business and Tax Regulations Code,
16 must first demonstrate to the Director's satisfaction that the relevant district lacks funding for
17 graffiti abatement or has exhausted all available funding for graffiti abatement, in order to
18 participate in the pilot Abatement p~~Program established in this subsection (e).~~

19 ~~(3) **Expiration of Pilot Program.** Unless the Board of Supervisors by ordinance~~
20 ~~extends the term of the Pilot Program, this subsection (e) shall expire by operation of law 27 months~~
21 ~~following the effective date of the ordinance in Board File No. 220538 establishing the Pilot Program.~~
22 ~~After that date, the City Attorney is authorized to remove this subsection (e) to be removed from the~~
23 ~~Public Works Code.~~

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

5
6 Section 5. Scope of Ordinance. In enacting this ordinance, the Board of Supervisors
7 intends to amend only those words, phrases, paragraphs, subsections, sections, articles,
8 numbers, punctuation marks, charts, diagrams, or any other constituent parts of the Municipal
9 Code that are explicitly shown in this ordinance as additions, deletions, Board amendment
10 additions, and Board amendment deletions in accordance with the "Note" that appears under
11 the official title of the ordinance.

12
13
14 APPROVED AS TO FORM:
DAVID CHIU, City Attorney

15
16 By: /s/ Christopher T. Tom
CHRISTOPHER T. TOM
17 Deputy City Attorney

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LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Public Works Code - Public Works Graffiti Abatement Program]

Ordinance amending the Public Works Code to authorize Public Works to perform graffiti abatement on private properties in commercial areas at no cost to property owners, solely at property owners' request and upon property owners' authorization and property owners' waiver of claims associated with the graffiti abatement; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

Existing Law

On August 4, 2022, the City and County of San Francisco adopted Ordinance No. 174-22, which created a 27-month-long pilot program enabling the Department of Public Works ("Public Works") to perform graffiti abatement on private property in specified commercial corridors at no cost to the property owner, following receipt of the property owners' written consent. Commercial property owners and small businesses have appreciated the services provided under this program and the program has resulted in meaningful abatement of graffiti in commercial corridors.

Amendments to Current Law

This ordinance would amend the Public Works Code to replace the graffiti abatement pilot program with a permanent program, authorizing Public Works to perform graffiti abatement on private properties in specified commercial corridors at no cost to property owners, solely at property owners' request and upon property owners' authorization and property owners' waiver of claims associated with the graffiti abatement. The graffiti abatement program would operate as long as Public Works has sufficient funds to operate the program.

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BOARD of SUPERVISORS



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

MEMORANDUM

Date: August 7, 2025
To: Planning Department/Planning Commission
From: John Carroll, Assistant Clerk, Land Use and Transportation Committee
Subject: Board of Supervisors Legislation Referral - File No. 250817
Public Works Code - Public Works Graffiti Abatement Program

- ☒ California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Determination
(*California Public Resources Code, Sections 21000 et seq.*) Not defined as a project under CEQA Guidelines Sections 15378 and 15060(c)(2) because it would not result in a direct or indirect physical change in the environment.
☒ Ordinance / Resolution
☐ Ballot Measure 8/25/2025 *Joy Navarrete*
- ☐ Amendment to the Planning Code, including the following Findings:
(*Planning Code, Section 302(b): 90 days for Planning Commission review*)
☐ General Plan ☐ Planning Code, Section 101.1 ☐ Planning Code, Section 302
- ☐ Amendment to the Administrative Code, involving Land Use/Planning
(*Board Rule 3.23: 30 days for possible Planning Department review*)
- ☐ General Plan Referral for Non-Planning Code Amendments
(*Charter, Section 4.105, and Administrative Code, Section 2A.53*)
(Required for legislation concerning the acquisition, vacation, sale, or change in use of City property; subdivision of land; construction, improvement, extension, widening, narrowing, removal, or relocation of public ways, transportation routes, ground, open space, buildings, or structures; plans for public housing and publicly-assisted private housing; redevelopment plans; development agreements; the annual capital expenditure plan and six-year capital improvement program; and any capital improvement project or long-term financing proposal such as general obligation or revenue bonds.)
- ☐ Historic Preservation Commission
☐ Landmark (*Planning Code, Section 1004.3*)
☐ Cultural Districts (*Charter, Section 4.135 & Board Rule 3.23*)
☐ Mills Act Contract (*Government Code, Section 50280*)
☐ Designation for Significant/Contributory Buildings (*Planning Code, Article 11*)

Please send the Planning Department/Commission recommendation/determination to John Carroll at john.carroll@sfgov.org.

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



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San Francisco, CA 94102-4689
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M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Carla Short, Director, Public Works
Anne Taupier, Executive Director, Office of Economic and Workforce Development

FROM: John Carroll, Assistant Clerk, Land Use and Transportation Committee

DATE: August 7, 2025

SUBJECT: LEGISLATION INTRODUCED

The Board of Supervisors' Land Use and Transportation Committee has received the following proposed legislation, introduced by Supervisor Melgar on July 29, 2025.

File No. 250817

Ordinance amending the Public Works Code to authorize Public Works to perform graffiti abatement on private properties in commercial areas at no cost to property owners, solely at property owners' request and upon property owners' authorization and property owners' waiver of claims associated with the graffiti abatement; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

If you have 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 or by email at: john.carroll@sfgov.org.

cc:
Office of Chair Melgar
David Steinberg, Public Works
Ian Schneider, Public Works
Alesandra Lozano, Office of Economic and Workforce Development

From: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
To: [BOS-Supervisors](#); [BOS-Legislative Aides](#)
Cc: [Calvillo, Angela \(BOS\)](#); [Mchugh, Eileen \(BOS\)](#); [Ng, Wilson \(BOS\)](#); [Somera, Alisa \(BOS\)](#); [De Asis, Edward \(BOS\)](#); [BOS-Operations](#); [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#); [Carroll, John \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: FW: Support for File #250817 – Public Works Graffiti Abatement Program
Date: Thursday, September 25, 2025 1:11:57 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-signature .png](#)
[Re: Support for File #250817 – Public Works Graffiti Abatement Program.pdf](#)

Dear Supervisors,

Please see below and attached, from the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, regarding:

File No. 250817 - Ordinance amending the Public Works Code to authorize Public Works to perform graffiti abatement on private properties in commercial areas at no cost to property owners, solely at property owners' request and upon property owners' authorization and property owners' waiver of claims associated with the graffiti abatement; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

Regards,

Richard Lagunte
Office of the Clerk of the Board
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102
Voice (415) 554-5184 | Fax (415) 554-5163
bos@sfgov.org | www.sfbos.org

Pronouns: he, him, his

***Disclosures:** Personal information that is provided in communications to the Board of Supervisors is subject to disclosure under the California Public Records Act and the San Francisco Sunshine Ordinance. Personal information provided will not be redacted. Members of the public are not required to provide personal identifying information when they communicate with the Board of Supervisors and its committees. All written or oral communications that members of the public submit to the Clerk's Office regarding pending legislation or hearings will be made available to all members of the public for inspection and copying. The Clerk's Office does not redact any information from these submissions. This means that personal information—including names, phone numbers, addresses and similar information that a member of the public elects to submit to the Board and its committees—may appear on the Board of Supervisors' website or in other public documents that members of the public may inspect or copy.*

From: Jackson Nutt-Beers <jnuttbeers@sfchamber.com>
Sent: Monday, September 22, 2025 9:38 AM
To: Board of Supervisors (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>; Board of Supervisors (BOS)

<board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>

Cc: Low, Jen (BOS) <jen.low@sfgov.org>

Subject: Re: Support for File #250817 – Public Works Graffiti Abatement Program

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

Good morning San Francisco Board of Supervisors,

Please find the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce's letter of support for Supervisor Melgar's Public Works Graffiti Abatement Program legislation.

Please let me know if you have any questions.



Jackson Nutt-Beers, M.A. ([they/them](#))

Public Policy Program Manager

San Francisco Chamber of Commerce

235 Montgomery Street, Suite 760, San Francisco, CA

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SAN FRANCISCO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

September 22, 2025

San Francisco Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Support for File #250817 – Public Works Graffiti Abatement Program

Dear President Mandelman and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

On behalf of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, I am writing in support of Supervisor Melgar's legislation, File #250817, establishing and funding the Public Works Graffiti Abatement Program.

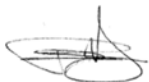
San Francisco's businesses and commercial corridors continue to face significant challenges in ensuring clean, safe, and welcoming environments for employees, customers, and visitors. Graffiti vandalism undermines neighborhood vitality, places an undue burden on small business owners, and creates negative perceptions of our city's economic core. A consistent, coordinated graffiti abatement program operated by Public Works is an important step to strengthen business corridors and enhance public confidence.

This legislation will provide timely removal of graffiti to deter repeat vandalism, reduce the costs and disruptions borne by small businesses in addressing property damage, and reinforce community pride while supporting San Francisco's broader economic recovery by making our neighborhoods more inviting to workers, shoppers, and visitors alike.

By investing in a city-managed graffiti abatement program, San Francisco will not only support businesses but also send a clear signal that we value the cleanliness and appearance of our neighborhoods as central to our city's economic resilience.

We urge you to support File #250817 and help provide the resources needed to make San Francisco's commercial corridors vibrant, safe, and welcoming.

Sincerely,



Rodney Fong
President & CEO
The San Francisco Chamber of Commerce

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: