File No.	250063	Committee Item No.	
		Board Item No. 38	

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

AGENDA PACKET CONTENTS LIST

Committee: _ Board of Sup	ervisors Meeting	Date:
	Motion Resolution Ordinance Legislative Digest Budget and Legislative Analyst Youth Commission Report Introduction Form Department/Agency Cover Lette MOU Grant Information Form Grant Budget Subcontract Budget Contract/Agreement Award Letter Application Public Correspondence	
OTHER	·	
Prepared by: Arthur Khoo Date: January 22, 2025 Prepared by: Date:		

1	[Urging Walgreens to Reconsider Store Closures in San Francisco]
2	
3	Resolution urging Walgreens to reconsider store closures in San Francisco and to
4	prioritize alternative solutions to maintain their presence in San Francisco, particularly
5	in vulnerable neighborhoods that face significant challenges in accessing healthcare
6	and essential services.
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8	WHEREAS, Walgreens has been a vital part of San Francisco's retail and healthcare
9	landscape, providing essential goods, pharmacy services, and health support to the city's
10	diverse communities for decades; and
11	WHEREAS, Walgreens is the one of the largest retail pharmacy chains with
12	approximately 8,500 locations across the United States and an additional 4,000 locations
13	across the Europe, and Latin America; and
14	WHEREAS, In 2024, Walgreens filled about 796 million prescriptions in the United
15	States, including vaccinations; and
16	WHEREAS, According to Walgreen's Fiscal Year 2024 Earnings, 2024 sales increased
17	6.2% to up to \$147.7 billon USD covering retail pharmacy sales in the Untied States,
18	international retail, and wholesale operations compared to 2023; and
19	WHEREAS, Walgreens recently announced 1,200 nationwide closures over the next
20	three fiscal years due to profitability challenges, including stores unable to cover the costs of
21	leases; 12 stores in San Francisco are scheduled to close by the end of February 2025; and
22	WHEREAS, The list of planned closures include: 1201 Taraval Street, 3201 Divisadero
23	Street, 1363 Divisadero Street, 825 Market Street, 1750 Noriega Street, 1524 Polk Street,
24	1301 Franklin Street, 1189 Potrero Avenue, 135 Powell Street, 1630 Ocean Avenue, 5280
25	Geary Boulevard, and 5300 3rd Street; and

Supervisors Walton; Fielder, Chan, Chen, Melgar, Engardio, Sherill, Sauter, Mandelman **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

1	WHEREAS, The planned closures of Walgreens stores in San Francisco
2	disproportionately affect vulnerable populations, low-income residents, including seniors,
3	individuals with disabilities, and residents of neighborhoods with limited access to alternative
4	pharmacy services; and
5	WHEREAS, These closures exacerbate existing challenges in neighborhoods already
6	facing barriers to basic services; and
7	WHEREAS, According to the study "Association Between Pharmacy Closures and
8	Adherence to Cardiovascular Medications Among Older US Adults," published on the
9	National Library of Medicine, pharmacy closures lead to health risks associated with older
10	adults failing to take medication; and
11	WHEREAS, According to the study, "Assessment of Pharmacy Closures in the United
12	States from 2009 Through 2015," published on the Journal of American Medical Association,
13	found that pharmacies at greatest risk for closures are those with large customer base on
14	public insurance, which have lower reimbursement rates than private plans; and
15	WHEREAS, The National Community Pharmacists Association found that the
16	expansion of large drug retail chains have contributed to the decline and closure of
17	independent pharmacies, reducing competition, and limiting options for consumers; and
18	WHEREAS, The closure of these stores will exacerbate existing inequities in
19	healthcare access and will create pharmacy deserts, leaving many San Franciscans without
20	convenient access to medications and essential health products; and
21	WHEREAS, The closures will have significant economic and social impacts, including
22	job losses for Walgreens employees and diminished vitality of neighborhood commercial
23	corridors; and
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1	WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco recognizes the importance of
2	maintaining accessible healthcare services and retail options as part of its commitment to
3	equity, public health, and community well-being; and
4	WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco must commit to addressing the
5	needs of all residents, particularly those in historically underserved communities; and
6	WHEREAS, Walgreens has previously demonstrated a willingness to collaborate with
7	communities to address their concerns and adapt business strategies in a way that supports
8	local needs; now, therefore, be it
9	RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors strongly urges Walgreens
10	to reconsider its decision to close the affected stores and prioritize alternative solutions to
11	maintain their presence in San Francisco, particularly in vulnerable neighborhoods that face
12	significant challenges in accessing healthcare and essential services; and, be it
13	FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors calls on
14	Walgreens to engage collaboratively with city officials, community leaders, and impacted
15	residents to develop strategies that sustain pharmacy access and support neighborhood
16	vitality; and, be it
17	FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors hereby directs
18	the Clerk of the Board to transmit a copy of this resolution to the leadership of Walgreens
19	Boots Alliance, Inc., including the Walgreens CEO, and strongly urges them to act swiftly to
20	reconsider this matter to prevent disruptions to community health and well-being.
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Introduction Form

(by a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor)

I here	eby subr	nit 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			
	ral Plan	anning Commission Building Inspection Commission Human Resources Department Referral sent to the Planning Department (proposed legislation subject to Charter 4.105 & Admin 2A.53): es No superative Agenda items (a Resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative Agenda Form.)			
Spon	sor(s):				
Subje	ect:				
Long	Title or	text listed:			
		Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor:			