

1 [Administrative Code - Treatment of Shared Spaces on Valencia Street Sidewalk Bulb-Out as
2 Curbside Shared Spaces]

3 **Ordinance waiving specified requirements in the Administrative Code to allow two food**
4 **service shared spaces on a sidewalk bulb-out on the 500 Block of Valencia Street to be**
5 **defined as curbside shared spaces, subject to certain requirements; and affirming the**
6 **Planning Department’s determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.**

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

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

15 Section 1. Findings.

16 (a) Environmental Findings. The Planning Department has determined that the
17 actions contemplated in this ordinance comply with the California Environmental Quality Act
18 (California Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq.). Said determination is on file with
19 the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. 221271 and is incorporated herein by
20 reference. The Board affirms this determination.

21 (b) Findings Regarding the Two Affected Hybrid Shared Spaces.

22 (1) The two food service seating areas that are the subject of this ordinance are
23 located at 540-542 Valencia Street (Assessor Parcel No. 3568/006) and 544-546 Valencia
24 Street (Assessor Parcel No. 3568/007) (together, the “Valencia Hybrid Spaces” or “VHS”) on
25 the western side of the street between 16th and 17th Streets. During the declaration of COVID
emergency, the restaurants associated with these addresses installed food service seating

1 areas on the midblock sidewalk bulb-out (the “Bulb-out”) as shared spaces in accordance with
2 Administrative Code Sections 94A et seq. and Public Works Code Sections 793 et seq.
3 pursuant to Ordinance No. 99-21.

4 (2) The Valencia Hybrid Spaces are located on or partially on a non-operational
5 midblock Bulb-out on Valencia Street that has not functioned for its intended purposes. The
6 City never activated this midblock crossing because City staff did not complete the bulb-out on
7 the opposing (eastern) side of Valencia Street, stripe the roadway, or install other traffic and
8 pedestrian design features to make the crossing functional.

9 (3) In contrast to the Valencia Hybrid Spaces, other enterprises along the 500 Block of
10 Valencia Street’s western frontage installed parklets that are located in the curbside parking
11 lane and are fixed to the roadway bed. As such, the majority of the parklets along this
12 Valencia Street western frontage fall within the framework of Curbside Shared Spaces that
13 are Fixed Commercial Parklets, as these two capitalized terms are defined in Administrative
14 Code Section 94A.2 (collectively, the “Valencia Curbside Shared Spaces”).

15 (4) The Valencia Hybrid Spaces parallel the roadside edge of the Valencia Curbside
16 Shared Spaces and, as a consequence, present a uniform line of restaurant seating areas
17 adjacent to the Valencia Street vehicular travelway. In addition, the VHS generally have the
18 same width as the Valencia Curbside Shared Spaces, which results in a consistent positioning
19 on the curb along the Valencia Street sidewalk zone. The location of the Valencia Hybrid
20 Spaces preserves an Americans’ with Disabilities Act compliant pedestrian path of travel width
21 on the sidewalk.

22 (c) Notwithstanding the geographic uniformity of the Valencia Hybrid Spaces with the
23 Valencia Curbside Shared Spaces, and their common function in providing outdoor seating for
24 restaurants, the VHS are located on the midblock Bulb-out instead of in the curbside parking
25 zone. As a consequence, they do not qualify as Curbside Shared Spaces under

1 Administrative Code Section 94A.2 and Public Works Code Sections 793 et seq. In addition,
2 the Valencia Hybrid Spaces are affixed to the sidewalk, whereas Fixed Commercial Parklets
3 are allowed only in the curbside parking zone and not on the sidewalk. Further, Sidewalk
4 Shared Spaces as defined and addressed in Administrative Code Section 94A.2 and Public
5 Works Code Sections 176 et seq. (Café Tables and Chairs) are temporary and removed each
6 day after the close of business, and as such, may not be affixed to the sidewalk. Therefore,
7 despite the VHS's similar size and placement between the vehicular travelway and sidewalk
8 pedestrian path of travel as the Valencia Curbside Shared Spaces, the VHS do not qualify as
9 Fixed Commercial Parklets/Curbside Shared Spaces because they are on the sidewalk
10 instead of in the curbside parking zone; and, they do not qualify as Sidewalk Shared Spaces
11 because they are affixed to the sidewalk and not removed each day. Consequently, the VHS
12 are Shared Spaces that do not fall within the definitions or permitting scheme of any of the
13 existing categories of Shared Spaces.

14 (d) In recognition of the economic, health, safety, and recreational contributions that
15 Shared Spaces have provided to commercial enterprises, neighborhood businesses, and City
16 residents and visitors, the Board of Supervisors intends to allow the Valencia Hybrid Spaces
17 to continue operating as viable extensions of the associated restaurants in the same manner
18 as the similarly situated Valencia Street Curbside Shared Spaces. To accomplish this
19 objective, this ordinance waives specific provisions of the Administrative Code governing
20 Shared Spaces that otherwise would be applicable to the Valencia Hybrid Spaces,
21 conditioned on the VHS undergoing minor physical modifications to make them compliant with
22 applicable laws and similarly situated Shared Spaces.

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1 Section 2. Waiver of Certain Administrative Code Provisions.

2 (a) In regard to the Valencia Hybrid Spaces, portions of Administrative Code Sections
3 94A.2, 94A.4, and 94A.5 are hereby waived to allow the affected City departments to treat the
4 VHS as Curbside Shared Spaces that are Fixed Commercial Parklets. In addition, these
5 Administrative Code Sections are waived to the extent that the current VHS permittees shall
6 not be required to obtain approval from the Director of Transportation under Section 2.4 of
7 Division II of the Transportation Code for the VHS because the VHS are not located in the
8 street.

9 (b) In implementing these waivers, the Public Works Director shall process permits for
10 the VHS in accordance with the other requirements of Administrative Code Sections 94A et
11 seq., Public Works Code Sections 793 et seq., and Public Works regulations for Curbside
12 Shared Spaces that are Fixed Commercial Parklets and shall ensure that the VHS are
13 compliant with these laws and regulations. To the extent that implementation of these waivers
14 presents a conflict with Public Works Code Sections 176 et seq. or Sections 793 et seq., the
15 provisions of this ordinance shall prevail, and the Public Works Director is authorized to
16 exercise discretion to amend any regulations in conflict with this ordinance; provided,
17 however, that the VHS shall comply with all regulations regarding public health and safety
18 design features for Shared Spaces.

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20 Section 3. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective 30 days after
21 enactment. Enactment occurs when the Mayor signs the ordinance, the Mayor returns the

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1 ordinance unsigned or does not sign the ordinance within ten days of receiving it, or the Board
2 of Supervisors overrides the Mayor's veto of the ordinance.

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4 APPROVED AS TO FORM:
5 DAVID CHIU, City Attorney

6 By: /s/ John D. Malamut
7 JOHN D. MALAMUT
8 Deputy City Attorney

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