

From: [Angulo, Sunny \(BOS\)](#)
To: [Wong, Linda \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Peskin, Aaron \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Fwd: Lynette Spiegel Statement for OEWD hearing
Date: Thursday, May 6, 2021 12:36:09 PM

Linda,
Can you please include in the hearing file from yesterday's Budget & Appropriations Hearing on Item 5? Thank you!

From: Daniel Macchiarini <danny1mac@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 6:00:53 PM
To: Hepner, Lee (BOS) <lee.hepner@sfgov.org>; Peskin, Aaron (BOS) <aaron.peskin@sfgov.org>
Cc: Lynnet Spiegel <lynnet@jeffreypets.com>; DPH-FoodSec-070 <caffaida@yahoo.com>; Fady Zoubi <ffzoubinbba@gmail.com>
Subject: Lynette Spiegel Statement for OEWD hearing

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Ciao Aaron and Lee,

For the record here is Lynette's statement its speaks right to the issues both of you have raised with OEWD.....sorry the hearing went on so long that we, in the public could not speak within the time allotted for it....please let us know when another hearing might occur with the new OEWD director actually present.

Thanks,
Danny Mac

STATEMENT BY LYNETTE SPIEGEL ON OEWD GRANT ISSUES

**OWNER OF JEFFREY PET FOODS
WOMAN OWNED BUSINESS IN NORTH BEACH AND THE CASTRO COMMERCIAL
DISTRICTS
BOARD MEMBER, NORTH BEACH BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

Thank you Arron for your determination to push for transparency of how funds are appropriated within OEWD.

- specifically, for the relief programs implemented to provide relief to small businesses

In reviewing your memo it appears to be extremely comprehensive and represents the questions small business throughout San Francisco are searching.

My small business which consists of two store fronts in San Francisco built three parklets to help mitigate some of the challenges of COVID-19 guidelines. The parklets enabled us to continue to stay open during the shutdown. It wasn't and isn't ideal but we continue to work through it, much like the other businesses throughout San Francisco.

The parklets have literally allowed many small businesses to keep their heads above water

when the alternative would have been to shut their doors forever. However, it came at a huge monetary cost that has not been easy to recuperate. A modest parklet sets a business back approximately \$15,000 and now we are grappling with the understanding that there may be additional costs moving forward that will be determined by the city of San Francisco.

I have received a \$2,000 grant from my \$15,000 parklet in North Beach. For the other two that are in the Castro I have not received grants for but continue to receive emails thanking me for applying but I did not qualify for this round and I don't need to re-apply.

Questions that are aligned with many of the question that you proposed:

- What are the guidelines for how much a business receives?
- Is it based on the amount spent on parklet?
- Do different types businesses i.e. restaurants vs coffee shops receive different amounts?
- Why have I received funds and many of my small business colleagues have not?
- When will additional funds be available and how much?

From: [Carlos Solórzano-Cuadra](#)
To: [Angulo, Sunny \(BOS\)](#); [Hepner, Lee \(BOS\)](#); [Yan, Calvin \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Souza, Sarah \(BOS\)](#); [RivamonteMesa, Abigail \(BOS\)](#); [Wong, Linda \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: RE: WED, May 5th - Supes Peskin & Haney hearing on Small Biz Relief
Date: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 9:30:32 AM
Attachments: [1HCCSF letter to SF supervisors 05052021.pdf](#)

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To our HCCSF board and members:

I'm attaching a letter sent to Supervisor Peking and Haney requesting support to the Latino/Hispanic Small Businesses. I urge you to participate and call as well on our behalf. Below is the information provided to us from Sunny Angulo, Chief of Staff for Supervisor Peskin and our own member Sarah Souza with Supervisor Haney.

This Wednesday, at the [May 5th Budget and Appropriations Committee](#), Supervisors Peskin and Haney are holding a hearing on OEWD direct relief for local small businesses, as the Mayor prepares to finalize her budget proposal for consideration by the Board of Supervisors. You can read more about the hearing and its supportive documents here in [File No. 210350](#).

The meeting starts at 1:00pm on Wednesday afternoon but the hearing is the last item on the agenda, so likely won't come up for many hours into the afternoon. Given the uncertainty of the timing and the lack of flexibility that most of you struggle with as small business operators, we are recommending that you send it your "story" to the Committee via email to be included in the file.

I've received so many emails from frustrated small business owners who took the time to apply for relief and navigated the often confusing portals and processes, only to be denied and often without much of an explanation or further guidance on what a better approach might be. Obviously, with limited funds, not every merchant will get everything they apply for, but we hope to improve the City's services and processes to better serve those most impacted and in danger of permanently closing their doors. This doesn't just include immigrant, people of color and women owned businesses, but also Legacy Businesses and those in historic neighborhoods of cultural significance.

The Board of Supervisors is only as good an advocate as the small business community it represents, who are best poised to tell their respective stories and offer feedback on what they truly need to survive and thrive during our economic recovery.

If you really want to call in and address the Committee directly, you can do so here:

WATCH SF Cable Channel 26, 78 or 99 (depending on provider)

WATCH www.sfgovtv.org

PUBLIC COMMENT CALL-IN 1 (415) 655-0001 / Meeting ID: 187 707 6356 # #

But if you're pressed for time, an email addressed to the Budget & Appropriations Committee (with a CC: to Linda Wong, the Committee Clerk at Linda.Wong@sfgov.org and Supervisor Peskin) would be helpful for the purposes of illuminating the on-the-ground struggles that the small business community is facing. Please feel free to circulate to your community members. (I'm also including a letter to the Mayor regarding the desired direction of OEWD's new leadership that was transmitted to the board of Supervisors by a coalition of grassroots community organizations – I understand it is the sponsor's intent to allow the new incoming Director the opportunity to speak to some of the community concerns around equity at a later date.)

Best,

Sunny Angulo
Supervisor Aaron Peskin, *Chief of Staff*

Sunny.Angulo@sfgov.org

415.554.7451 DIRECT

415.554.7450 VOICE

[District 3 Website](#)

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Try to assist and support.

Carlos Solórzano

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Hispanic Chambers of Commerce of San Francisco
Cámaras de Comercio Hispanas de San Francisco



May 5th, 2021

Budget & Appropriations Committee

Sunny Angulo, Supervisor Aaron Peskin, *Chief of Staff*

Sunny.Angulo@sfgov.org

415.554.7451 DIRECT

415.554.7450 VOICE

Supervisor Matt Haney

Sarah Souza

RE: Public Comment on May Fifth hearing on Small Business Relief

Dear Supervisors Peskin and Haney,

The Board of Directors of the Hispanic Chambers of Commerce of San Francisco (HCCSF), and its membership, would like to thank you as well as all the supervisors for all the support you provide to our Hispanic business members and business associations, representing the interest of over 5,000 Hispanic business owners throughout San Francisco and the Bay Area in Northern California.

We are asking to consider the challenges we have been facing in the Hispanic/Latino small business community. In the last year we (the HCCSF) have been working tirelessly to support and help our members and community to have access to capital, loans, grant and any kind of relief available to them. We have a lot of challenges and I will kindly give some samples of our barriers in getting them the help needed.

We assisted over 490 small businesses in applying for PPP loans, CARE relief grant and other opportunities, as we worked with them, we found out the lack of knowledge in technology documentation and language issues. We sat with them and guide them step by step, as it went further as we discover the inability of even not having an email and had to rely in their young family members and us to access internet information. Other organizations like MEDA, OEWD, CHCC to name a few are going through the same challenges. We also worked with Small Business Commissioners, William Ortiz-Cartagena, Manny Yekutiel and Miriam Zouzounis.

Members like Karla Garcia from Bris's Creations that have more knowledge and access are also going through the same difficulties in getting economic assistance. I apologize for not being present, nevertheless we need your support to survive in our businesses. We are committed to assist in any way we can to the success of our City and Small Businesses.

Sincerely;

Carlos Solórzano-Cuadra
CEO

Hispanic Chambers of Commerce

Of San Francisco (HCCSF) and Multi Visión Latina (Small Business Owner)

Office: 415.735.6120

Direct: 415-259-1498

E mail: carlos@hccsf.com

Cc: HCCSF Board of Directors

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From: [Peskin, Aaron \(BOS\)](#)
To: [Stephen Torres](#); [Wong, Linda \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Haney, Matt \(BOS\)](#); [Mar, Gordon \(BOS\)](#); [Ronen, Hillary](#); [Safai, Ahsha \(BOS\)](#); [Elizabeth Lanyon](#); [Carnell Freeman](#); [Corey Fusco](#); [Tina Aguirre](#)
Subject: RE: May 5, 2021 Hearing agenda item: Direct Small Business Relief Update and OEWD Equity Plan for Recovery
Date: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 2:03:19 PM

Thank you, Mr. Torres.

Linda, can you please include this correspondence in the file?

Aaron

From: Stephen Torres <stephen.torres@castrolgbtq.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 1:07 PM
To: Wong, Linda (BOS) <linda.wong@sfgov.org>
Cc: Peskin, Aaron (BOS) <aaron.peskin@sfgov.org>; Haney, Matt (BOS) <matt.haney@sfgov.org>; Mar, Gordon (BOS) <gordon.mar@sfgov.org>; Ronen, Hillary <hillary.ronen@sfgov.org>; Safai, Ahsha (BOS) <ahsha.safai@sfgov.org>; Elizabeth Lanyon <elizabeth.lanyon@castrolgbtq.org>; Carnell Freeman <carnell.freeman@castrolgbtq.org>; Corey Fusco <corey.fusco@castrolgbtq.org>; Tina Aguirre <taguirre@castrolgbtq.org>
Subject: May 5, 2021 Hearing agenda item: Direct Small Business Relief Update and OEWD Equity Plan for Recovery

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May 5, 2021

San Francisco Board of Supervisors Budget & Appropriations Committee
Supervisor Matt Haney
Supervisor Gordon Mar
Supervisor Hilary Ronen
Supervisor Asha Safai
Supervisor Shamann Walton

Cc: Supervisor Aaron Peskin
Linda Wong, Committee Clerk

Dear Budget & Appropriations Committee Members,

We appreciate you holding this hearing on OEWD direct relief to local small businesses today. As a San Francisco cultural district that was established shortly

before the beginning of the pandemic, much of our feedback from the community we represent has been from community business owners, many of them LGBTQ legacy businesses in addition to those also owned by women, trans, and poc members of our community. Indeed for many of these constituents it is too late to help as so many have already closed their doors forever.

Due to the labyrinthine process that is required to access aid for small business owners we hope that this is a significant step in distributing aid and saving San Francisco's rich LGBTQ entrepreneurial spirit from becoming a collateral loss of the pandemic and relegated to footnote in the City's history.

As a grassroots, City-legislated organization we would like to offer whatever help we can in advising and shaping the direction of this and future efforts to support small business with a focus on equity and inclusion through an LGBTQ lens.

Sincerely,

Stephen Torres
Secretary of the Board,
Castro LGBTQ Cultural District
Cc: Carnell Freeman & Elizabeth Lanyon, Executive Chairs
Corey Fusco, Treasurer
Tina Valentín Aguirre, District Manager

--

Stephen Torres (he/him)
Secretary of the Board
Castro LGBTQ Cultural District

415.489.8761

February 9, 2021

An Open Letter to Mayor Breed:

Mayor Breed, we write to you regarding the search for a new Director of the Office of Economic and Workforce Development (OEWD), and what we see as central qualifications that we urge you to consider as you search for the next Director.

We are advocates for, and members of, communities who have been deeply impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly low-wage, immigrant, workers of color that have been hit hardest by the crisis. Our communities are on the frontlines of the greatest economic crisis our city has seen, facing mass unemployment or risking their lives on the job, food insecurity, housing instability, lack of childcare, and elevated stress and mental health challenges. Prior to COVID many of our communities already worked in the lowest wage industries and faced the greatest barriers to family-sustaining, career pathway jobs, often excluded from even participating in workforce programs due to need for immediate income, lack of supports such as childcare or transportation, language access, immigration status, and more.

Mayor Breed, we applaud your leadership in naming racial equity as a citywide priority and the OEWD leadership for taking this call seriously in their work. The Director of OEWD is a critical position at any time, but in this moment we all recognize the momentous task before them. Therefore it is imperative that the next Director is someone who has the leadership, vision, and proven track record to steer the course for a strong COVID recovery as well as a long term agenda for inclusive and equitable economic development that directly addresses the historic inequities faced by our communities. The next Director should embody the following qualifications to successfully rise to this moment:

- A bold racial and economic equity-centered vision for how OEWD should navigate the current crisis as well as the road to recovery, centering the most impacted communities and a commitment to include undocumented workers in OEWD programming;
- A commitment to build off of successful OEWD programs especially in supporting small businesses, non-profits, and workers of color (such as the Nonprofit Resiliency Fund) to creatively and aggressively set new goals to meet the dual needs of access to quality empowered jobs and long-term investments in community resilience: from jobs to mitigate climate change, to the care jobs to support the young, elderly, sick and disabled, to education and healthcare;
- A balanced set of relationships with key stakeholders: employers especially small businesses, workforce providers, City College and other educational institutions, the nonprofit sector and organizations serving those residents facing the greatest barriers to employment.

We see firsthand how Black, Indigenous, and people of color communities, frontline workers, undocumented workers and limited English speaking immigrants are disproportionately impacted by the pandemic and health and safety risks on the job. The Covid-19 pandemic is

compounding pre-existing racial inequities and economic inequality. It is likely to further disrupt the labor market by accelerating automation and digitalization, if current trends in the profit driven deployment of technology continue. The task of the City and County of San Francisco and the new OEWD leadership must be to face these structural inequities head on, with an ambitious agenda for economic and workforce development that explicitly invests in low-income communities of color. According to a [recent report by the Economic Roundtable](#), the COVID-driven loss of jobs is also expected to significantly increase chronic homelessness by 68% in California. The authors argue, “Without large-scale, government employment programs the Pandemic Recession is projected to cause twice as much homelessness as the 2008 Great Recession.”

In addition to the likelihood of increased homelessness, approximately 225,000 SF residents are receiving unemployment, and that number could get as high as 400,000 -- nearly half the city’s population. To address these problems, we must rebuild community-based infrastructure and invest in the non-profit workforce as key strategies in recovery. The 2008 recession taught us that we cannot simply “tighten our belts” but that austerity measures will actually deepen an economic crisis and make recovery an even longer, slower process.

San Francisco needs an economic recovery plan that prioritizes public investments in jobs that will stabilize communities in this time of extraordinary economic and social upheaval, as well as support responsible employers in the public sector, non-profit sector, and small businesses who anchor our neighborhoods. Workers rights must be prioritized alongside reopening in the interest of public health, equity and long term shared prosperity. We can and must “build back better,” and not fall into the short-sighted trap of defining “recovery” as a return to the status quo. We can create new models for shared success that uplift and support responsible employer practices.

A recent report by PolicyLink and the USC Equity Research Center, “[Advancing Workforce Equity in the Bay Area: A Blueprint for Action](#),” had these important recommendations to address inequity in workforce development that we urge OEWD to implement in its programs:

“For workforce programs to truly address systemic inequities during COVID, they must address the needs job seekers have for steady income, childcare, transportation, ESL training, and other issues that prevent them from full participation in such programs. To increase the value of workforce and vocational education programs and democratize access to good jobs, workforce education and training programs should integrate worker-rights training and wraparound supports into existing training and services to ensure that low-wage workers and job seekers actually benefit from workforce development offerings.”

Some groups of workers, like undocumented workers and workers who are not fluent English speakers, need much more intensive support and services than others in the pathway to job placement. New OEWD leadership can work with department staff and

service providers to help tailor program guidelines and deliverables to account for the additional needs of these workers.

This crisis is an opportunity to support those employers who are doing everything possible to do right by their workers, and to ensure that businesses and their staff have the education and resources needed to operate safely for their employees and the general public. This is an opportunity to show a new path forward to reshape thriving cultural and business centers of truly shared prosperity, in communities historically struggling with low-wage jobs and limited economic opportunity. We can create a new model for how businesses, workers, community and government can partner to protect the health of everyone, towards sustainable community development.

As Mayor, we hope that you will seriously consider these recommendations as you search for the next Director of OEWD, so that the pandemic provides our city a new way to prioritize equity and racial justice in our economic recovery these coming years.

Sincerely,

APA Family Support Services
Chinatown Community Development Center
Chinese for Affirmative Action
Chinese Culture Center of San Francisco
Chinese Historical Society of America
Chinese Progressive Association
Community Housing Partnership
Dolores Street Community Services
Filipino Community Center
Hospitality House
Kai Ming Head Start
Mujeres Unidas y Activas
San Francisco Rising
Trabajadores Unidos Workers United
Southeast Asian Development Center
Wu Yee Children's Services
YMCA of San Francisco, Community Action Agency of San Francisco County