



May 7, 2025

Budget & Finance Committee
Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
City Hall, Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102
Re: 160 Freelon – File #250462
Letter of Support

Dear Supervisors Chan, Dorsey, and Engardio:

Please consider this letter as support for the 160 Freelon project located on 160 Freelon Street, San Francisco, CA 94107 on behalf of the LEATHER & LGBTQ Cultural District.

The LEATHER & LGBTQ Cultural District believes the Leather and LGBTQ community is an integral part of the fabric of San Francisco and worthy of celebration. We exist to ensure there is a lively and vibrant home for our community of events, businesses, bars and organizations in SOMA.

For many years, residents of SOMA have been displaced by large developments with costs far beyond their means. As more and more artists, workers, and performers are priced out of the neighborhood, many becoming unhoused, unstably housed, or moving to other areas of the city or in other Bay Area communities. Affordable housing with wrap-around services such as the 160 Freelon project are needed to stem the exodus out of SOMA and stabilize the vibrant community the neighborhood has historically been.

We have attended presentations by the 160 Freelon development staff and have been impressed by their careful consideration of the needs of vulnerable populations to not only survive but thrive. The units set aside for the currently unhoused and HIV+ populations reflect their diligence in addressing their specific needs.

We urge you to move the 160 Freelon project forward and support the goals of the SOMA neighborhood to become an even more vibrant, thriving community. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bob Goldfarb
Executive Director
LEATHER & LGBTQ Cultural District



5/13/25

Re: Support for 160 Freelon (File #250461 and #250462)

Supervisors Chan, Dorsey, and Engardio,

SOMA Pilipinas is in support of the affordable housing project at 160 Freelon that will provide much needed affordable housing for the South of Market community. We urge you to support the resolutions before you tomorrow for this project.

SOMA Pilipinas was created to fight against the displacement of the Filipino community in the South of Market. The cultural district strongly advocates for community development that supports the needs of low-income residents and families, such as 100% affordable housing. SOMA Pilipinas also strives to create a neighborhood that visually reflects the heritage and history of the Filipino community through art, design, and public realm improvements.

The 160 Freelon project is located within the SOMA Pilipinas Filipino Cultural Heritage District. The project provides housing that is affordable, and more than half of the units are family sized 2-3 bedrooms apartments. SOMA Pilipinas looks forward to working with the project sponsor on incorporating the history and heritage of the cultural district into the design and public art components of the building.

We are glad to see the 160 Freelon project moving forward, especially when the vast majority of 100% affordable housing projects tied to the Central SOMA plan have stalled out. We look forward to this addition of much needed 100% affordable housing in the neighborhood and ask that the Board support the 160 Freelon project.

Thank you,

David Woo
Community Development and Policy Coordinator
SOMA Pilipinas