

Hello Committee Members,

My name is Amy Hull and I urge you to support this legislation which will prohibit the re-sale of stolen merchandise, help end the theft rampant in San Francisco and make public space safer.

As a property manager I am responsible for thousands of SF residents who express difficulty in safely walking the streets or accessing public transportation due to rampant illegal sidewalk sales and trafficking of stolen goods. My residents have been recent victims of crime and harassment on and around UN Plaza and adjacent sidewalks, which are often literally impassable or dangerous feeling to the average pedestrian. Often, my residents, employees and I feel safer walking in the streets than on sidewalks. What should be clean, safe, and accessible public spaces have instead become places to avoid and potentially fear.

I am aware that theft and black-market vending are out of control in San Francisco, and that seemingly very little is being done to discourage either. The crowds also seem to attract drug dealers. I witness it every day. Stolen merchandise vendors are also often part of larger organized crime rings currently operating without any fear of consequence.

It is encouraging to see the City taking action, to: 1) stop stolen goods markets, 2) reduce property crime and 3) adopt and enforce legitimate vending opportunities.

Please approve this legislation.

Cordially,

Amy Hull  
COO, Trinity Management Services

**From:** [Shadd Newman](#)  
**To:** [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Amend public works code to address street vending  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 2, 2022 9:32:43 AM  
**Attachments:** [image1fa4ff.PNG](#)

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Hello Committee Members,

My name is Shadd Newman, and I urge you to support this legislation which will prohibit the re-sale of stolen merchandise, help end the theft rampant in San Francisco, and make public space safer.

As a reside in west SOMA and work across the street from UN Plaza. Daily, I see filth, open air dealing, and conditions that make the neighborhood almost unpassable. Just yesterday a neighbor a video to Reddit of a transaction where someone's (presumably) stolen bike was traded for drugs at the corner of Market and 8th. What should be a clean, safe and accessible public space has instead has become a place to avoid. We fear our own neighborhood, and avoid the local businesses because walking to them is not safe.

Thank you,

Shadd Newman

Shadd Newman  
Vice President  
(415) 575-3356



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DATE: March 1, 2022

RE: Support for Street Vendor Regulation

TO: Budget and Finance Committee  
Supervisor Matt Haney  
Supervisor Gordon Mar  
Supervisor Ahsha Safai

CC: Supervisor Hillary Ronen

Dear Supervisors Haney, Mar and Safai:

The Tenderloin Community Benefit District (TLCBD) is a property-based assessment district covering 40 blocks of the storied Tenderloin District. We oversee an investment by the property owners in supplemental cleaning, safety and beautification and leverage it for the benefit of everyone who lives, works and visits the Tenderloin. Our core purpose is to lead the evolution of the Tenderloin into a vibrant community for all.

**TLCBD supports the proposed Street Vendor Regulation because it will establish a clear path to lawful street vending.** We ask you to create a city-wide permitting process that is low-barrier and easy-to-understand because it will be pivotal to ensuring the safety of our neighbors.

We urge you to include an extensive outreach and education campaign to people currently vending illegally with the option to be permitted.

We believe this legislation will play an important role in improving sidewalk conditions in the Tenderloin and better allowing safe passage for both children and seniors.

Sincerely,



Simon Bertrang  
Executive Director



March 1, 2022

San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
Attention: Budget and Finance Committee  
1 Dr Carlton B Goodlet Place #244  
San Francisco, CA 94102

*Sent via email to: [brent.jalipa@sfgov.org](mailto:brent.jalipa@sfgov.org)*

**Re: Street Vending Reform Ordinance**

Dear Supervisors:

The Mid Market Community Benefit District (MMCBD) is in full support of the proposed legislation for revised street vending parameters in San Francisco - with added controls for problematic United Nations Plaza – in the heart of Mid Market.

Public health and safety challenges were present in Mid Market prior to the pandemic, but the past two years have exacerbated an entire spectrum of issues ranging from quality of life concerns and burglaries, to violent assaults, shootings and homicides. Unpermitted street vending and our City's inability to address the problem have a hand in all of these issues.

Residents, including the disabled, encounter blocked sidewalks, stairs and plazas because unpermitted vendors have taken over the pedestrian right of way. Pedestrians are harassed by vendors hawking their wares. Business, home and auto break-ins are at an all time high. And disputes between unpermitted vendors vying for territory and price fixing manifest with physicality and fire arms. What's more, residents have left Mid Market, employees are refusing to come back to work or quitting altogether, businesses have closed and visitors don't come.

It is incumbent on our City's leadership to implement a vending policy that facilitates legitimate vending and our City's ability to enforce said policy.

Sincerely,

Tracy Everwine,  
Executive Director

**PHOTOS ATTACHED**





March 2, 2022

Budget and Finance Committee  
San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
1 Dr Carlton B Goodlet Place #244  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Sent via email to: [brent.jalipa@sfgov.org](mailto:brent.jalipa@sfgov.org)

Re: Street Vendor Regulations

Honorable Supervisors:

I write this letter on behalf of the Civic Center Community Benefit District (CCCBD) in support of the proposed Ordinance to enhance San Francisco's street vending policy, especially in United Nations Plaza which is within our purview. We are encouraged this legislation will be a catalyst for safer vending and safer public spaces.

The Civic Center Community Benefit District's mission is to improve and promote San Francisco's historic Civic Center. In addition to providing focused and responsive neighborhood clean and safe services, our CBD also produces free community events and programs in open spaces such as UN Plaza and Civic Center, and should be the preeminent example of safe public spaces in San Francisco.

Currently, our ability to program UN Plaza, a hallmark of what we do, is stifled by the threatening vending activities taking place. Artists, performers and other vendors we are calling on to come back to the Plaza during the City's reopening, are no longer comfortable returning due to the current conditions. Those contemplating coming to the Plaza will only do so if the crime and safety issues are resolved.

Safety is the number one concern for UN Plaza. What in the past has been a relatively welcoming public space for lunchtime concerts, outdoor performing arts and night markets is now a highly organized and dangerous marketplace for drugs and stolen goods. While safety challenges in UN Plaza certainly existed pre-pandemic, the proliferation of stolen merchandise has all but taken over portions of the Plaza. Dense crowds of people participating in these markets, morning, noon and night, create an intimidating and often impassable environment.

Adjacent residents and property owners who rely on the Plaza the most deserve improvements now. And as people return to work, students return to UC Hastings, and visitors return to our city, it is time to reclaim this vital public space for everyone. Protecting the Heart of the City Farmers Market, both its vendors and shoppers, is also of paramount importance, as is making sure surrounding office and retail spaces are attractive to potential businesses – so vital to the area's recovery.

New street vending policy is a critical first step toward improving conditions in UN Plaza and city-wide. We look forward to continued collaboration with you and our City agency partners to support the implementation and effectiveness of vending policy reform.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tracy Everwine".

Tracy Everwine  
Executive Director

Attachments



SAN FRANCISCO  
**CIVIC  
CENTER**



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(415) 658-7979  
info@sfciviccenter.org  
[www.sfciviccenter.org](http://www.sfciviccenter.org)

*Civic Center Community Benefit District is a privately funded, 501 c3 not-for-profit organization that works tandem with City agencies to enhance the Civic Center public realm.*



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1182 MARKET STREET SUITE 200 SAN FRANCISCO CA 94102  
T 415 551 2075 [broadwaysf.com](http://broadwaysf.com)



Mr. Brent Jalipa  
VIA EMAIL

Cc: Ahsha Safai; Matt Haney; Gordon Mar

March 1, 2022

Dear Mr. Jalipa

I'm the Managing Director of the Ambassador Theatre Group San Francisco. We are the owners of the Orpheum, Golden Gate and Curran Theatres and collectively, we welcome more than 1,000,000 guests into our theatres each year.

While many of our guests live or work in San Francisco, more than XX% do not and travel to the City specifically for our performances. Our economic benefit expands to include the many restaurants and hotels that surround us as well as to the employment of hundreds of local craftspeople and theatre workers.

With all 3 theatres reaching their Centennial mark within the next few years, we have been the steady anchor through all phases of these neighborhood's development, demise and rebirth. The mid-Market rebirth is happening now and we are extremely active in working with the City and dozens of nonprofits in our area to help the neighborhood become stronger and safer.

While the recent Emergency Declaration for the Tenderloin area is a necessary step, it does not address all of the ills our neighborhood face. We know first-hand that many of our patrons have stopped coming because of their safety concerns and while the Linkage Center and increased support from the City and police are important, they do not address what some might consider a low-level problem but one that we feel helps to contribute to the impression of the neighborhood by our patrons.

Each day, out of my office window or while I head to a local business, I witness stolen goods being openly sold on the streets. In fact, on some days it is near impossible for me to travel between our theatres (8<sup>th</sup>/Market and 6<sup>th</sup>/Market) without encountering numerous set-ups on the street of goods, usually canned goods and other items usually distributed at food pantries being resold. Sometimes, I have to walk into the street as there are so many that the sidewalk is impassable.

Being adjacent to U.N. Plaza, we also witness other stolen goods being fenced. In fact, it's hard not to see people selling items that are evidently new and still in their boxes.

We understand the State Laws that have allowed for more leniency for street vendors have made it more difficult to combat this type of situation, but we feel that this is another contributing factor as why the Tenderloin and Civic Center area are seen as an "anything goes" environment. We urge the City to find a way to end these practices so that everyone who comes to San Francisco sees its beauty and is not distracted by this unethical practice. Our business will be happier for it and so will more than 1,000,000 people each year.

Sincerely,

Rainier Koeners  
Managing Director



# UC Hastings Law

## SAN FRANCISCO

Sent via email to [bos.legislation@sfgov.org](mailto:bos.legislation@sfgov.org)

February 28, 2022

Budget and Finance Committee  
San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
1 Dr Carlton B Goodlet Place, #244  
San Francisco, California 94102

**Re: Street Vendor Regulation in UN Plaza**

Honorable Supervisors:

I write this letter on behalf of UC Hastings Law in support of the proposed regulation of street vendors in UN Plaza. Many UC Hastings Law employees, students, visitors, and residents use UN Plaza as their main path of travel to and from campus. Additionally, many of our student residents utilize the weekly Farmers Market to ensure that they have fresh produce available to them. Unfortunately, the sale of goods by unlicensed vendors, oftentimes stolen where the proceeds are used to fuel the drug trade, has made travel through or use of UN Plaza unsafe for our community. This situation is most problematic for our students living on campus who also need to navigate the sidewalks in the nighttime hours when safety conditions are the most perilous.

While the proposed legislation will not address all of the community concerns in the Tenderloin including violence, drug dealing, and cleanliness, we believe that providing a safe path of travel to and from campus as well as supporting the continuation of the Farmers Market is an important step. We expect that the City & County of San Francisco will work to ensure that legitimate vendors will receive a streamlined path to permits for authorized vending.

Additionally, while unrelated to the legislation before the Budget & Finance Committee today, we are grateful to have Urban Alchemy practitioners in UN Plaza and throughout the Tenderloin, and we appreciate the continuation of this important program by the City & County of San Francisco.

Approval of this legislation is a step towards limiting the sale of stolen goods and returning UN plaza to an inviting space for all of the public.

Sincerely,

*Rhiannon Bailard*

Rhiannon L. Bailard  
Chief Operating Officer

**From:** [Steve Pulliam](#)  
**To:** [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Street Vending Legislation  
**Date:** Monday, February 28, 2022 2:05:49 PM

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

I am reaching out from **Heart of the City Farmers Market** regarding the street vending legislation being proposed. Heart of the City Farmers Market is very much in support of this legislation being approved.

Since 1981, Heart of the City has provided critical food access to our community. We now distribute nearly \$2million yearly in food assistance to help over 12,000 low-income households afford nutritious produce, including thousands of local seniors.

However, in the past two years, conditions in the UN Plaza have greatly deteriorated. The plaza has been swarmed by drug dealers and users lining the pathways and transit access to and from the market. Parking has been virtually eliminated for the much-needed Safe Sleeping Village, and Illegal sales of stolen goods has increased to unprecedented levels. During this time period the Farmers' Market has lost over 25 vendors (over 40%) due to these unsafe conditions and lack of customers. Daily, we field complaints from customers, employees and vendors complaining of harassment, aggression, and downright fear. Now, for the first time in our history we fear the survival of this neighborhood institution.

There have been two shootings recently on the plaza during our Farmers Market, and many fights with clubs, tasers, and knives. You may recall the elderly Asian woman who was attacked at the corner of Market and 7<sup>th</sup> Street which now harbors the illegal goods market. Her assailant was attacked just prior in this same illegal market. Our security guard, Samba Guisse, who caught the assailant was himself recently stabbed in the market. The threat of this illegal goods market is constant and evermore aggressive. We must station one of our 2 security guards on that side of the market just to keep the illegal market from spilling into our own. Of course, when they cannot sell their stolen goods at the corner, they enter our Farmers Market to try their luck. When asked to leave they become aggressive and threatening.

Furthermore, we have had vendors setup stands directly next to and within our market as if they are a part of us. Our vendors pay exorbitant fees and undergo frequent inspection to ensure that their product is safe and their own. Our Temporary Food Facilities, which are located next to the area where the illegal goods are sold, have fees in excess of \$1,000 monthly to sell in our market. Recently an illegal hotdog vendor set up an operation with a

canopy adjacent to our market. When asked to move, he responded “what are you going to do, the cops won’t move me”. He was correct, because repeated calls to SFPD resulted in no action. The best we could do was to get him to agree to move further from the Farmers’ Market.

In the last month, conditions have improved with the addition of the Linkage Center fencing and the return of Urban Alchemy to the plaza. It may take years for many of our customers and farmers to feel safe here again. Our reputation has been severely damaged. The approval of this street vending legislation could be the next step to further improve conditions at Heart of the City Farmers’ Market and facilitate a return to pre-pandemic operations. We wholeheartedly support this legislation.

Steve Pulliam (Market Manager)

--

Steve Pulliam  
Market Manager  
Heart of the City Farmers' Market  
1182 Market Street, Suite 412  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
Ph - 415-690-9016

**From:** [MICHAEL S. ROSSOFF](#)  
**To:** [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#); [Jim](#); [Cheryl Maloney](#); [DANIEL HELLER](#)  
**Subject:** Street Vendor Reg. 211292  
**Date:** Monday, February 28, 2022 8:18:07 AM

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Dear Sir,

Please convey my ENDORSEMENT of proposed Street Vendor Regulation.

The Regulation prevents the conversion of public land at United Nations Plaza. The plaza is the City's gateway and parade ground. for the exclusive private use without the consent of the City. The current conversion is unjust and undemocratic because it grants valuable City land to a very small elite group of vendors. The vendors often use violence and threats of violence to maintain their unlicensed franchise.

For 25 years, I have seen this situation worsen from my offices at 1 UN Plaza. I have since retired and have tried to rent my vacant offices. My first rental agent was frightened away and never came back after a nearby vendor threaten to shoot her in the face just because she was trying to take a picture of the building for her advertisement. My second agent, from Vanguard, was able to rent the offices. The new tenants moved out before they completely moved in after they saw the scary and tragic situation the unregulated vending causes, especially at night.

The City currently has one of the highest vacancy rates for office space in the world. The proposed legislation will help activate the commercial, civic and cultural life of the Plaza and return it to the people.

Michael Rossoff  
1 UN Plaza  
San Francisco

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Ned Desmond](#)  
**To:** [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Helene Sautou](#); [Safai, Ahsha \(BOS\)](#); [Haney, Matt \(BOS\)](#); [Mar, Gordon \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Concerning proposed new street vendor regulations  
**Date:** Sunday, February 27, 2022 3:06:18 PM

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To whom it may concern -

My name is Ned Desmond. I am a senior operating partner at SOSV, which operates the IndieBio startup development program located at 479 Jessie Street (sixth and Jessie) in San Francisco. I am writing on behalf of myself, my colleagues and the startup founders who work at this location.

As everyone is likely aware, the vicinity of our office has become a major area of criminal activity and our team finds the environment frightening and intimidating. In the past month, our office has been broken into twice, with considerable loss of commercial and personal property. These were reported to the police. We have been forced to bring in security experts to assess and harden our building security.

Just last week, one of our colleagues was punched in the face by a random passerby at Blue Bottle Cafe, a few yards from our office on Jessie Street. Other employees have been harrassed and chased. Everyone tries to avoid walking up to the corner of Jessie and Sixth when possible. These incidents led us to hire a security company to provide personal security training for our team.

Based on our own observations as well as briefings from local police, our area is a center of activity for stolen goods trafficking and drug dealing. We believe that the new proposed legislation, which requires permits for street vendors and proof of goods ownership would have a beneficial impact on our neighborhood. The activity related to stolen goods could no longer be carried out so openly, and we hope that would reduce the sense of threat as well as level of crime in our neighborhood.

The startup founders we work with at our IndieBio location come from all over the world to work with our experts, and they leave after six months to create world-changing companies that address the twin challenges of human and planetary (climate) health. They are always excited to come to San Francisco, and we hope their enthusiasm continues. We would be grateful if the city could take these steps and others to make the streets safe and welcoming for everyone. Thank you. - Ned Desmond

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**Ned Desmond**  
Senior Operating Partner, [SOSV](#)  
Twitter: NedDesmond



Note: This email has been sent in line with SOSV's [Communication Policy](#)

**From:** [Jane Weil](#)  
**To:** [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#); [Safai, Ahsha \(BOS\)](#); [Haney, Matt \(BOS\)](#); [Mar, Gordon \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** In favor: proposed Legislation to regulate sale of stolen goods  
**Date:** Thursday, February 24, 2022 12:01:15 PM

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Hello Committee Members,

My name is Jane Weil, and I urge you to support legislation which will prohibit the re-sale of stolen merchandise, help end the theft rampant in San Francisco and make public space safer.

UN Plaza and Market Street should be clean, safe and accessible public space but have instead become a place to avoid, and the center of our precious city has become a nightmare and embarrassment.

As a resident of Mid Market I have witnessed firsthand the sales of clearly stolen goods. I am aware that theft and black market vending are out of control in San Francisco, and that seemingly very little is being done to discourage either. Stolen merchandise vendors are also often part of larger organized crime rings currently operating without any fear of consequences.

When my phone was stolen from Obama Headquarters I was immediately able to trace it to 7<sup>th</sup> & Market, a block from my home, and the feeling of helplessness and violation was terrible.

Recently I watched a man use a tool to break theft prevention devices off a pile of stolen sneakers while a crowd grew around him ready to try them on....nobody was the slightest bit concerned that his clearly stolen goods would be taken...This is not acceptable!

It is encouraging to see the City taking action, to: 1) stop stolen goods markets, 2) reduce property crime and 3) adopt and enforce legitimate vending opportunities.

Please approve this legislation.

*Jane Weil*  
*1160 Mission Street #2108*  
*San Francisco 94103*