



September 15, 2021

Supervisor Myrna Melgar
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102
Via Email myrna.melgar@sfgov.org

Supervisor Aaron Peskin
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102
Via Email aaron.peskin@sfgov.org

Supervisor Dean Preston
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102
Via Email dean.preston@sfgov.org

Re: Proposed Amendment to Planning Code - Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street
San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 20, 2021

Dear Supervisors Melgar, Peskin, and Preston:

On behalf of the board and staff of the Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation (AIISF), I am writing to express our enthusiastic support for the proposed amendments to Planning Code Section 121.4.

AIISF is one of the founding organizations of Chinatown Media and Arts Collaborative, which is a non-profit corporation that seeks to develop “Edge on the Square,” at 800 Grant Avenue. Edge on the Square will be an important center for Asian American contemporary media and arts. The center will be a collaborative platform for artists, performers, scholars, and educators and will bring visitors to Chinatown resulting in increased economic activity in the community.

For the past 40 years, AIISF has worked to preserve the buildings at the former US Immigration Station at Angel Island and to uplift stories of historic and current-day immigration. Especially with the rise in anti-Asian racism and xenophobia that we have all witnessed in recent years, it is crucial to have spaces like “Edge on the Square” that help to bring increased awareness to our

San Francisco Board of Supervisors
Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 15, 2021

communities' histories, current challenges, and enduring contributions to San Francisco, California, and the nation.

Thus, we strongly support the proposed amendments to the Planning Code.

With warm regards,



Edward Tepporn
Executive Director
Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation

cc: Allan E. Low, Esq.
Perkins Coie, LLP
(via email alow@perkinscoie.com)

September 15, 2021

Via Email myrna.melgar@sfgov.org

Supervisor Myrna Melgar
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Via Email aaron.peskin@sfgov.org

Supervisor Aaron Peskin
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Via Email dean.preston@sfgov.org

Supervisor Dean Preston
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Proposed Amendment to Planning Code - Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street
San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 20, 2021

Supervisors Melgar, Peskin, and Preston:

This letter is in support of the proposed amendments to the Planning Code Section 121.4 (the “**Amendments**”). The Amendments are much needed to preserve and revitalize Chinatown.

The intent of Chinatown Visitor Retail, Chinatown Residential Neighborhood Commercial, and Chinatown Community Business districts are to prevent the encroachment of the Financial District into Chinatown and to preserve the small businesses and neighborhood community services in Chinatown. The Amendments further the intent and purpose of those zoning districts which will keep Chinatown retail and commercial spaces for small businesses and Chinatown serving organizations. Those small businesses and organizations are vital to Chinatown. The residents of Chinatown shop, eat, and rely on services from these small businesses and organizations.

It is also crucial to revitalize the visits to and visitor experience in Chinatown. The Amendments will allow for creative uses of space in Chinatown allowing for social service, philanthropic, and

San Francisco Board of Supervisors
Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 15, 2021

community organizations to utilize dormant and vacant space promoting pedestrian foot traffic and activity along Chinatown commercial corridors.

Chinatown Community Development Center fully supports the Amendments and urge the San Francisco Board of Supervisors Land Use and Transportation Committee to approve the Amendments.

Very Truly Yours,

Chinatown Community Development Center



Malcolm Yeung

cc: Allan E. Low, Esq.
Perkins Coie, LLP
(via email alow@perkinscoie.com)

September 16, 2021

RE: This letter is in support of the proposed amendments to Planning Code Section 121.4 preserving and revitalizing Chinatown, North Beach and Polk Street small businesses.

San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Land Use and Transportation Committee
Meeting on September 20, 2021

Dear Supervisors Melgar, Peskin, and Preston:

This letter is in support of the proposed amendments to Planning Code Section 121.4 preserving and revitalizing Chinatown small businesses.

As a long-time resident in Chinatown, Executive Director of Chinese Newcomers, Community Youth Center, and HomeownershipSF, and now owner of a small business in Chinatown, Sam Wo, I have been working with nonprofits and businesses to improve business conditions in Chinatown.

The Chinatown Media and Arts Collaborative is a non-profit corporation that seeks to develop “Edge on the Square,” at 800 Grant Avenue, a center for Asian American contemporary media and arts and will leverage the power of art and culture for social and economic recovery. Edge on the Square will be a venue for artists, performers, activists, entrepreneurs, designers, technologists, scholars, and educators. It will attract over 250,000 visitors and generate over \$10,000,000 in revenues for local restaurants and businesses.

The proposed amendments to the Planning Code will allow for the development of Edge on the Square as a cultural institution over 5,000 square feet in the Chinatown Visitor Retail District. This will be an important cultural institution for Chinatown and help in the revitalization and rebirth of Chinatown.

We strongly support the proposed amendments to the Planning Code.

Very Truly Yours,

Carlos Serrano-Quan, Member of the Chinatown Community for 47 years

cc: Allan E. Low, Esq.
Perkins Coie, LLP (via email alow@perkinscoie.com)

Cc: Mabel Teng, CMAC, via email

September 16, 2021

Supervisor Myrna Melgar
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Supervisor Aaron Peskin
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Supervisor Dean Preston
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Proposed Amendment to Planning Code - Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street

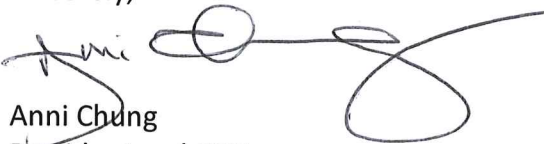
San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Land Use and Transportation Committee
Dear Supervisors Melgar, Peskin, and Preston:

Self-Help for Elderly (SHE) is in support of the proposed amendments to Planning Code Section 121.4.

We are aware of the establishment of the Chinatown Media and Arts Collaborative, which is a non-profit corporation that seeks to develop "Edge on the Square," at 800 Grant Avenue. Edge on the Square will be an important creative platform and an inclusive voice of the Asian American community. Through the power of artist expression, collaborations and exchange of ideas, our families and seniors will harness the energy and excitement of artists, performers, activists, entrepreneurs, designers, technologists, scholars and educators.

We strongly support the proposed amendments to the Planning Code. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Anni Chung
President and CEO

cc: Allan Low, Esq.
Perkins Coie, LLP

San Francisco
415.677.7500
601 Jackson Street
San Francisco, CA 94133

San Mateo
650.342.0822
50 East Fifth Avenue
San Mateo, CA 94401

South Bay
408.733.1883
550 East Remington Drive
Sunnyvale, CA 94087

Alameda
510.336.0144
2400 MacArthur Boulevard
Oakland, CA 94602



September 16, 2021

Via Email myrna.melgar@sfgov.org

Supervisor Myrna Melgar
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Via Email aaron.peskin@sfgov.org

Supervisor Aaron Peskin
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Via Email dean.preston@sfgov.org

Supervisor Dean Preston
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Proposed Amendment to Planning Code - Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street
San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 20, 2021

Dear Supervisors Melgar, Peskin, and Preston:

This letter is in support of the proposed amendments to Planning Code Section 121.4 preserving and revitalizing Chinatown small businesses.

Chinatown Media and Arts Collaborative is a non-profit corporation that seeks to develop “Edge on the Square,” at 800 Grant Avenue, a center for Asian American contemporary media and arts and will leverage the power of art and culture for social and economic recovery. Edge on the

San Francisco Board of Supervisors
Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 16, 2021

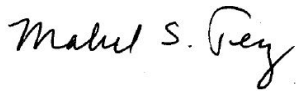
Square will be a venue for artists, performers, activists, entrepreneurs, designers, technologists, scholars, and educators.

It will attract over 250,000 visitors and generate over \$10,000,000 in revenues for local restaurants and businesses. The collaborative platform will celebrate and explore creative expressions at the intersection of community, art and media. Edge on the Square will: a) execute a local initiative with a national scope to present the stories and voices of the neighborhood and of immigrants in order to shape a more inclusive and just America; and b) protect neighborhood assets by providing appropriate development, help maintain Chinatown's vital role as a livable affordable community and contribute to its economic development.

The proposed amendments to the Planning Code will allow for the development of Edge on the Square as a cultural institution over 5,000 square feet in the Chinatown Visitor Retail District. This will be an important cultural institution for Chinatown and help in the revitalization and rebirth of Chinatown.

We strongly support the proposed amendments to the Planning Code.

Very Truly Yours,



Mabel S. Teng
Interim Executive Director
Chinatown Media and Arts Collaborative

cc: Allan E. Low, Esq.
Perkins Coie, LLP
(via email alow@perkinscoie.com)

From: [Amy Zhou](#)
To: [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Hepner, Lee \(BOS\)](#); [Flores, Veronica \(CPC\)](#)
Subject: Fw: Proposed Amendment to Planning Code - Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Land Use and Transportation Committee- September 20, 2021
Date: Wednesday, September 15, 2021 3:31:41 PM
Attachments: [Chinese Culture Center - Support Letter Amendment to Planning Code.docx.pdf](#)

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

Just FYI! Thanks!

Amy

From: Jenny Leung <jenny@cccsf.us>
Sent: Wednesday, September 15, 2021 12:42 PM
To: Melgar, Myrna (CPC) <myrna.melgar@sfgov.org>; Peskin, Aaron (BOS) <aaron.peskin@sfgov.org>; dean.preston@sfgov.org <dean.preston@sfgov.org>
Cc: Allan E. Low <alow@perkinscoie.com>
Subject: Proposed Amendment to Planning Code - Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Land Use and Transportation Committee- September 20, 2021

Dear Supervisors Melgar, Peskin, and Preston:

Chinese Culture Center and Foundation of San Francisco(CCC) is in support of the proposed amendments to Planning Code Section 121.4 on the agenda for the Land Use and Transportation Committee meeting on September 20, 2021.

Please find attached our letter of support.

Very Truly Yours,

Jenny Leung
Executive Director
Chinese Culture Center

--

Jenny Leung 梁凱欣
she/her
Executive Director

Tel: 415-986-1822 ext. 023

Chinese Culture Center of San Francisco



richmond area multi-services, inc.

a not-for-profit organization

September 16, 2021

Via Email myrna.melgar@sfgov.org

Supervisor Myrna Melgar
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Via Email aaron.peskin@sfgov.org

Supervisor Aaron Peskin
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Via Email dean.preston@sfgov.org

Supervisor Dean Preston
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Letter in Support of Ordinance to Change Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street (Board File 210600)

To the Chair and Members of the Land Use and Transportation Committee,

I am writing on behalf of RAMS Inc., which supports the proposed ordinance to change small business zoning controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street (Board File No. 210600).

RAMS, Inc. (Richmond Area Multi-Services) is a private, non-profit mental health agency that is committed to advocating for and providing community-based, culturally competent, and consumer-guided comprehensive services, with an emphasis on serving Asian & Pacific Islander Americans. Founded in San Francisco's Richmond District in 1974, RAMS offers comprehensive services that aim to meet the behavioral health, social, vocational, and educational needs of the diverse community of the San Francisco Area with special focus on the Asian & Pacific Islander American and Russian-speaking populations.

There are multiple positive outcomes from this proposed ordinance for the Chinatown community.

Allowing social service or philanthropic facilities in Chinatown to exceed the use size maximums with
4355 Geary Avenue san francisco, california 94118 (415) 800-0699



richmond area multi-services, inc.

a not-for-profit organization

Conditional Use Authorizations would allow for the development of important community spaces for both API and broader BIPOC communities. On the horizon, six leading Chinatown cultural organizations (CCDC, Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation, Chinese Cultural Center, Chinese Historical Society of America, Center for Affirmative Action, and Center for Asian American Media) have received \$26.5 million in state funding for *Edge on the Square*, a contemporary arts and media destination located at 800 Grant Avenue that will house build a cultural entity and inclusion in a manner that opens hearts and changes minds. Passing this ordinance is essential for the cultivation of important cultural spaces for API and the broader BIPOC communities.

Legacy businesses are also supported by amended ordinances by allowing the space that they need to operate. Legacy restaurants and small businesses have struggled during the COVID-19 pandemic with the waves of shutdowns and added pressure of anti-Asian hate that has seen fewer residents visit Asian ethnic enclaves. While the amended ordinances do not alleviate many of the financial pressures that small business owners are experiencing, it does provide legacy restaurants the space that they would need, should they like to move to another space in Chinatown.

RAMS, Inc. strongly supports the proposed ordinance to change small business zoning controls in Chinatown and North Beach, and on Polk Street in order to provide support to allow important philanthropic and social service uses in Chinatown, and to support any legacy restaurants and businesses.

Sincerely,

Jayvon Muhammad
President and C.E.O., RAMS, Inc.

Cc: Erica Major
Assistant Clerk, Board of Supervisors

舊金山中華文化中心
750 Kearny St., 3rd Floor,
San Francisco, CA 94108

Elevate the Underserved. Give Voice to Equality.

[Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

 [Uplift and Support AAPI artists and arts as a strong voice for social justice.](#) [See CCC in action!](#) 



1525 Grant Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94133
TEL 415.984.1450
FAX 415.362.7992
TTY 415.984.9910
www.chinatowncdc.org

September 15, 2021

Via Email myrna.melgar@sfgov.org

Supervisor Myrna Melgar
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Via Email aaron.peskin@sfgov.org

Supervisor Aaron Peskin
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Via Email dean.preston@sfgov.org

Supervisor Dean Preston
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Letter in Support of Ordinance to Change Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street (Board File 210600)

To the Chair and Members of the Land Use and Transportation Committee,

I am writing on behalf of **Chinatown Community Development Center (CCDC)**, which supports the proposed ordinance to change small business zoning controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street (Board File No. 210600).

CCDC is a place-based community development organization serving primarily the Chinatown neighborhood, in addition to North Beach and the Tenderloin. We serve many roles: neighborhood advocates, organizer and planners, and crucially, developers and managers of affordable housing.

With relation to the Chinatown adjustments, this ordinance will adjust a previous ordinance amending the Planning Code to prohibit retail workspace in Chinatown Mixed-Use Districts. In 2020, CCDC worked with Supervisor Peskin's Office to limit the encroachment of office workspaces in Chinatown, which could drive up rents and make it difficult for legacy merchants to compete. CCDC was supportive of the previous ordinance, and we believe that his new proposed ordinance will build upon it by providing greater flexibility for community-serving uses and because it supports legacy businesses, in addition to supporting use size restrictions that continues to protect Chinatown.

There are multiple positive outcomes for the Chinatown community.



1525 Grant Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94133
TEL 415.984.1450
FAX 415.362.7992
TTY 415.984.9910
www.chinatowncdc.org

Allowing social service or philanthropic facilities in Chinatown to exceed the use size maximums with Conditional Use Authorizations would allow for the development of important community spaces for both API and broader BIPOC communities. On the horizon, six leading Chinatown cultural organizations (CCDC, Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation, Chinese Cultural Center, Chinese Historical Society of America, Center for Affirmative Action, and Center for Asian American Media) have received \$26.5 million in state funding for *Edge on the Square*, a contemporary arts and media destination located at 800 Grant Avenue that will house build a cultural entity and inclusion in a manner that opens hearts and changes minds. Passing this ordinance is essential for the cultivation of important cultural spaces for API and the broader BIPOC communities.

Legacy businesses are also supported by amended ordinances by allowing the space that they need to operate. Legacy restaurants and small businesses have struggled during the COVID-19 pandemic with the waves of shutdowns and added pressure of anti-Asian hate that has seen fewer residents visit Asian ethnic enclaves. While the amended ordinances do not alleviate many of the financial pressures that small business owners are experiencing, it does provide legacy restaurants the space that they would need, should they like to move to another space in Chinatown.

CCDC strongly supports the proposed ordinance to change small business zoning controls in Chinatown and North Beach, and on Polk Street in order to provide support to allow important philanthropic and social service uses in Chinatown, and to support any legacy restaurants and businesses.

Yours Sincerely,

Amy Zhou
Planner, Chinatown Community Development Center

Cc: Mabel Teng
Interim Executive Director, Chinatown Media and Arts Collaborative

Erica Major
Assistant Clerk, Board of Supervisors



舊金山中華文化基金會

Chinese Culture Foundation of San Francisco

Dedicated to elevating underserved communities
and giving voice to equality through education and contemporary art.

September 16, 2021

Via Email myrna.melgar@sfgov.org

Supervisor Myrna Melgar
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Via Email aaron.peskin@sfgov.org

Supervisor Aaron Peskin
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Via Email dean.preston@sfgov.org

Supervisor Dean Preston
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Proposed Amendment to Planning Code - Small Business Zoning Controls in Chinatown and North Beach and on Polk Street
San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 20, 2021

Dear Supervisors Melgar, Peskin, and Preston:

Chinese Culture Center and Foundation of San Francisco(CCC) is in support of the proposed amendments to Planning Code Section 121.4.

CCC is one of the founding organizations of Chinatown Media and Arts Collaborative, which is a non-profit corporation that seeks to develop “Edge on the Square,” at 800 Grant Avenue. Edge on the Square will be an important center for Asian American contemporary media and arts. The center will be a collaborative platform for artists, performers, scholars, and educators and will bring visitors to Chinatown resulting in increased economic activity in the community.

San Francisco Board of Supervisors
Land Use and Transportation Committee
September 16, 2021

We strongly support the proposed amendments to the Planning Code.

Very Truly Yours,

Jenny Leung
Executive Director
Chinese Culture Center

cc: Allan E. Low, Esq.
Perkins Coie, LLP
(via email alow@perkinscoie.com)