



SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS



CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
GAVIN NEWSOM, MAYOR

January 31, 2011

Ms. Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board
Board of Supervisors
City Hall room 244
1 Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4694

Re: File Nos.101557-101563 [Various Resolutions and Ordinances re: Proposed Rincon Hill Infrastructure Financing District] and File No. 110036 [Adoption of Guidelines for the Establishment and Use of Infrastructure Financing Districts]

Small Business Commission Legislation and Policy Committee Recommendation:
Approval with comments

Dear Ms. Calvillo:

On January 24, 2011, the Small Business Commission's Legislation and Policy Committee voted to recommend approval of Board of Supervisors File Nos. 101577-101563 and File No. 110036 to the full Small Business Commission.

Commissioners recognize the positive benefits to communities in and around prospective Infrastructure Financing District improvement boundaries. Improving pedestrian and other experiences for both residents and non-residents alike will enhance shopping experiences and increase business revenues within these areas.

Commissioners believe that the creation IFD's provide an excellent opportunity for the Office of Economic and Workforce Development to bring economic development opportunities into these areas. Programs such as the Neighborhood Marketplace Initiative can help existing small businesses prepare themselves to maximize benefits of IFD's by completing façade improvement work, adjusting their business models to meet the needs of new residents, and more. Potential impacts, such as increased rent and construction access restrictions can be minimized through this assistance. Since this important economic development work cannot be funded directly by the IFD, Commissioners ask that the Board of Supervisors designate funding to OEWD to accomplish this work in Rincon Hill. For future proposed IFD areas, Commissioners request that developers contribute funds to OEWD for these programs.

Sincerely,

Regina Dick-Endrizzi
Director, Office of Small Business

cc. Supervisors Mar, Cohen, Wiener, Elsbernd
Starr Terrell, Mayor's Office
Jennifer Matz, Michael Yarne, Office of Economic and Workforce Development