



SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS



CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
EDWIN M. LEE, MAYOR

February 15, 2012

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 No. 120049 [Appropriating \$1,000,000 for the Small Business Revolving Loan Fund Program - Office of Economic and Workforce Development]

Small Business Commission Recommendation: **Approval**

Dear Ms. Calvillo:

On February 13, 2012, the Small Business Commission (SBC) voted 6-0 to recommend approval of File No. 120049. The SBC supports the appropriation of unused general fund dollars to recapitalize this important small business financing fund.

The SBC finds that the San Francisco revolving loan fund program contributes to economic growth, creates jobs, and that it successfully targets and supports low and moderate income citizens. By providing opportunities to those persons who are not eligible for traditional financing, ownership opportunities are extended to individuals that would normally not be able to turn their entrepreneurial goals into reality. Access to capital is still very difficult for even the best qualified small businesses as banks have continued to reduce small business lending. It should be noted however, that a number of businesses that utilized the revolving loan fund program were able to graduate to accessing traditional financing and continued to grow their business and create additional jobs.

The Commission supports a program that self-replenishes as borrower pay back their loans, therefore allowing additional loans to be made over-time. This allows for the benefit of dollars invested in the program to be multiplied over time and creates a significant job creation benefit.

Due the success of the program, the Commission recommends that additional funds be allocated to this fund in order to take steps to meet the high demand for these loans.

Sincerely,

Regina Dick-Endrizzi
Director, Office of Small Business

cc. Jason Elliott, Mayors Office
Jennifer Matz, Office of Economic and Workforce Development
Supervisors Chiu, Wiener, Olague, Farrell, Kim



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