



SAN FRANCISCO
**GRAFFITI
ADVISORY
BOARD**

Edwin M. Lee, Mayor

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Larry Stringer, Chair
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April 16, 2014

San Francisco Board of Supervisors
1 Carlton B Goodlett Pl 244, San Francisco, CA 94102
Board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org

RE: File # 140261, Ordinance to amend Park, Police and Public Works codes – Graffiti Prevention & Abatement (Breed)

Dear Supervisors Mar, Farrell, Chiu, Tang, Breed, Kim, Yee, Wiener, Campos, Cohen, and Avalos:

The San Francisco Graffiti Advisory Board offers its full support of Supervisor London Breed's proposed Ordinance to amend the Park, Police and Public Works codes to provide new graffiti prevention and abatement tools to the City of San Francisco.

Several members of the Graffiti Advisory Board have participated in the development of this legislation. While the Graffiti Advisory Board is committed to reviewing, evaluating and improving the City's current services and programs related to graffiti prevention, abatement and enforcement, priority is also placed on identifying and exploring innovative ideas on ways to combat graffiti.

The Graffiti Advisory Board considers the proposed Ordinance to be a positive step toward shifting the greater burden of graffiti vandalism to the offenders, and away from the victim. This legislation seeks to ensure that those committing graffiti vandalism will face consequences for their actions. To date, the cost of graffiti vandalism has fallen on the shoulders of taxpayers and property owners, while there have been few substantive consequences for those causing graffiti-related blight and damage. This legislation will provide meaningful civil consequences for graffiti vandals, by allowing for civil suits, penalties and restitution. In addition, by allowing the Department of Public Works to utilize administrative processes against graffiti vandals, and by preventing graffiti offenders from carrying known graffiti implements in to our parks and on to our MUNI vehicles, this legislation provides the City of San Francisco with valuable new tools in the effort to reduce graffiti-related costs and blight.

We at the San Francisco Graffiti Advisory board hope the Board of Supervisors will join Supervisor London Breed in supporting this important proposed legislation.

Sincerely,

San Francisco Graffiti Advisory Board

CC: Mayor Edwin Lee
Erica Major, Clerk, Government Audit & Oversight Committee
Erica.major@sfgov.org