



CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
LONDON BREED, MAYOR

OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS
REGINA DICK-ENDRIZZI, DIRECTOR

May 8, 2019

Ms. Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board
City Hall Room 244
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

RE: BOS File No. 190248 – Uses in the Upper Market NCT and NCT-3 Zoning Districts

Small Business Commission Recommendation to the Board of Supervisors: **Approval.**

Dear Ms. Calvillo,

On April 8, 2019 the Small Business Commission (SBC or the Commission) heard BOS File No. 190248 – Planning Code - Uses in the Upper Market NCT and NCT-3 Zoning Districts. Mr. Tom Temprano, aide to Supervisor Mandelman provided the SBC with an overview of the legislation. The Commission voted unanimously (7-0) to recommend that the Board of Supervisors approve the legislation.

The SBC enthusiastically supports the intent of this legislation which will reduce land use regulatory burdens that prospective retailers have faced when attempting to open brick and mortar establishments in the Upper Market and the Castro. Compared to similar commercial corridors, the Upper Market and the Castro have been subject to more stringent regulatory hurdles which has contributed to the challenge of filling retail vacancies. This legislation will help reduce a high number of vacancies in the area and contribute to the economic vitality of the neighborhood. The Commission commended the Supervisor's office for being proactive in proposing a solution for a nuanced challenge and for his outreach to neighborhood groups. The SBC is confident that this legislation will also positively contribute to and complement efforts to streamline permitting requirements for small businesses.

Thank you for considering the Commission's comments. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Regina Dick-Endrizzi
Director, Office of Small Business

cc: Rafael Mandelman, Member, Board of Supervisors,
Sophia Kittler, Mayor's Liaison to the Board of Supervisors
John Rahaim, Director, Planning Department
Lisa Pagan, Office of Economic and Workforce Development
Erica Major, Clerk, Land Use and Transportation Committee