



CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
LONDON BREED, MAYOR

OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS
REGINA DICK-ENDRIZZI, DIRECTOR

August 12, 2020

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. 200786 – Temporary Waivers of Permit Fees for Café Tables and Chairs and Display Merchandise in the Public Right-of-Way, and Use Fees for Parklets

Small Business Commission Recommendation to the Board of Supervisors: **Support with modifications.**

Dear Ms. Calvillo,

On August 10, 2020 the Small Business Commission (SBC or Commission) heard BOS File No. 200786 – Temporary Waivers of Permit Fees for Café Tables and Chairs and Display Merchandise in the Public Right-of-Way, and Use Fees for Parklets. Lee Hepner, Legislative Aide to Supervisor Aaron Peskin provided the SBC with an overview of the legislation. After discussion, the SBC voted (7-0) to recommend that the Board of Supervisors support the legislation with modifications.

The Commission applauded this legislation and extended their appreciation to the sponsor's office. They observed that although the genesis of the legislation predates the current emergency, this proposal is responsive to specific recommendations for small business support that the [Commission made to the Economic Recovery Task Force](#) to waive fees collected by regulatory agencies. The Commission emphasized that the ability for small businesses to utilize the public right of way for tables and chairs, display merchandise, and parklets helps to generate sales tax revenue, supports local jobs, and contributes to the beautification of the City. They discussed whether the legislative sponsor's office would be amenable to an amendment to extend the fee waivers in question in perpetuity. Mr. Hepner affirmed that they would consider the SBC's recommendations.

Responsive to a significant number of public commenters, the Commission discussed fees that have been assessed to small businesses for the use of park space by the Recreation and Parks Department during the pandemic, specifically fitness studios. Where \$15 per hour is currently being assessed to these businesses for the use of City park space, the Commission also discussed whether the legislative sponsor's would be amenable to including a waiver of this fee in the proposed legislation. Mr. Hepner affirmed that he would research this and contemplate it further.

Ultimately, the Commission voted unanimously to support the legislation with the following modifications:

- Amend Section 3 of the legislation and waive the fee for tables and chairs, display merchandise, and parklets in perpetuity;
- Amend Section 2 to include a waiver of Recreation and Park fees for assessed to outdoor fitness providers for the use of park space.

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

Sincerely,



Regina Dick-Endrizzi
Director, Office of Small Business

cc: Aaron Peskin, Member, Board of Supervisors
Sophia Kittler, Mayor's Liaison to the Board of Supervisors
Patrick O'Riordan, Interim Director, Department of Building Inspection
Phil Ginsberg, General Manager, Recreation and Parks
Lisa Pagan, Office of Economic and Workforce Development
Linda Wong, Clerk, Budget and Finance Committee