



CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
LONDON BREED, MAYOR

OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS
REGINA DICK-ENDRIZZI, DIRECTOR

July 28, 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. 200214 – Planning Code - Conditional Use Review and Approval Process - Priority Processing and Reduced Application Fee for Certain Uses of Commercial Space

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

Dear Ms. Calvillo,

On July 02, 2020 the Small Business Commission (SBC or Commission) heard BOS File No. 200214 – Planning Code - Conditional Use Review and Approval Process - Priority Processing and Reduced Application Fee for Certain Uses of Commercial Space. Lee Hepner, Legislative Aide to Supervisor Aaron Peskin provided the SBC with an overview of the legislation. After a robust discussion, the SBC voted (7-0) to recommend that the Board of Supervisors support the legislation with modifications.

The Commission engaged in a substantive discussion regarding the legislation with Mr. Hepner and with Aaron Starr, Manager of Legislative Affairs with the Planning Department. Mr. Hepner, Mr. Starr, and the Commission agreed that at present, the Conditional Use process is inefficient. The Commission expressed particular discomfort with reports of the process taking 300+ days or more to complete for some small businesses. The Commission had additional concerns regarding Section 303.2(e) of the legislation, which would permit the Planning Director, the Planning Commission, or authorized Neighborhood Organizations to adopt a one-time 60-day extension of the Planning Commission hearing date required of such projects that this legislation would affect. Specifically, that this provision may be used to add unnecessarily delay to projects. The Commission also discussed how the codification of the Community Business Priority Processing Program could unintentionally contribute to further gentrification of Cultural Districts, particularly Calle 24. Mr. Hepner shared that the sponsor's office would be open to amendments regarding those concerns.

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

- Eliminate Sec. 303.2(e). Extension of Commission Hearing Date.
- Exempt the Calle 24 Cultural District from the legislation

The Commission shared their appreciation for the opportunity to discuss this matter with the

sponsor's office in the public forum. They also asserted the importance of streamlining legislation in light of challenges small businesses are facing and will be facing due to the local emergency.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Regina Dick-Endrizzi".

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
Rich Hillis, Director, SF Planning
Lisa Pagan, Office of Economic and Workforce Development
Erica Major, Clerk, Land Use and Transportation Committee