

2018  
2019

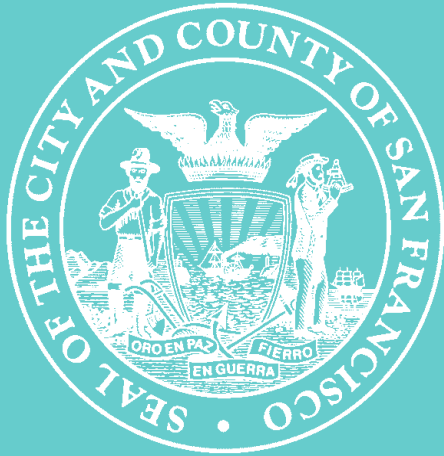
# ANNUAL REPORT

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# Welcome from the San Francisco Entertainment Commission!



BEN BLEIMAN



MAGGIE WEILAND

San Francisco has a world-renowned legacy of hosting a wide range of indoor and outdoor entertainment that celebrates its rich and diverse history. From street fairs and farmers markets, to concerts and comedy acts, these community and cultural events elevate our City’s quality of life. San Francisco’s nightlife and entertainment sector — which includes nightclubs, live music venues, bars, restaurants, street fairs, and other performance spaces — is an integral part of the City’s fabric. In addition to being a part of the City’s cultural identity, entertainment attracts international visitors and contributes over \$7.2 billion in economic impact to the City.

As the Entertainment Commission’s President and Executive Director, we are proud of San Francisco’s global prominence as a culturally vibrant **City of Celebrations** — a city activated by entertainment that strengthens our dynamic neighborhoods and welcomes the world.

On behalf of the San Francisco Entertainment Commission and staff, it is with great pleasure that we introduce our Annual Report. The Annual Report demonstrates the Entertainment Commission’s commitment to **foster, promote, regulate, and sustain** entertainment and culture in San Francisco.

With warm regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ben Bleiman".

**Ben Bleiman**  
President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Maggie Weiland".

**Maggie Weiland**  
Executive Director



## JURISDICTION

The Entertainment Commission was created in July 2003 by an amendment to the Charter Section 4.117.

### SEC. 4.117 ENTERTAINMENT COMMISSION

The San Francisco Entertainment Commission shall consist of seven members nominated and appointed pursuant to this section. The Mayor shall nominate four members to the Commission, and the Board of Supervisors shall appoint, by motion, three other members to the Commission. Each nomination of the Mayor shall be subject to approval by the Board of Supervisors, and shall be the subject of a public hearing and vote within 60 days. If the Board of Supervisors fails to act on a mayoral nomination within 60 days of the date the nomination is transmitted to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, the nominee shall be deemed approved. Appointments to the Commission shall become effective on the date the Board of Supervisors adopts a motion approving the nomination or on the 61st day following the date the mayoral nomination was transmitted to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors if the Board of Supervisors fails to act upon the nomination prior to such date.

Of the four members nominated by the Mayor, the Mayor shall nominate one member to represent the interests of City neighborhood associations or groups, one member to represent the interests of entertainment associations or groups, one member to represent the interests of the urban

planning community, and one member to represent the interests of the law enforcement community. Of the three members of the Commission appointed by the Board of Supervisors, one member shall represent the interests of City neighborhood associations or groups, one member shall represent the interests of entertainment associations or groups, and one member shall represent the interests of the public health community.

To stagger the terms of the members, the initial appointments to the Commission shall be as follows: the Mayor shall nominate two members to serve terms of four years, one member to serve a term of three years, and one member to serve a term of two years. Of the three remaining members of the Commission, the Board of Supervisors shall appoint one member to serve a term of four years, one member to serve a term of three years, and one member to serve a term of two years. Except for appointments to fill a vacancy, all subsequent appointments shall be for a term of four years. Members of the Commission nominated by the Mayor may be suspended by the Mayor and removed by the Board of Supervisors only as set forth in Section 15.105. Members of the Commission appointed directly by the Board of Supervisors may be suspended by a motion of the Board of Supervisors approved by six votes and may be removed by the Board of Supervisors only as set forth in Section 15.105. (Added November 2002).



In addition, the San Francisco Administrative Code sets forth the policy and form of the agency in Chapter 90.

**SEC. 90.1 DECLARATION OF POLICY**

It is the policy of the City and County of San Francisco to have a system of coordinated planning and permitting for cultural, entertainment, athletic and similar events and establishments throughout the City to promote such establishments and events for the economic and cultural enrichment of San Franciscans and visitors to San Francisco, and to celebrate the diverse communities within San Francisco. To facilitate this goal it is the policy of the City to have the San Francisco Entertainment Commission:

1. Assist the organizers and operators of cultural, entertainment, athletic and similar events and establishments to apply for, and obtain from the Commission and other City departments when the applicant satisfies the requirements therefore, all necessary permits from the City;
2. Promote the responsible conduct and operation of such events and establishments;
3. Promote the development of a vibrant entertainment and late-night entertainment industry within the City;
4. Promote the use of City facilities for cultural, entertainment, athletic and similar events that generate revenue for the City;
5. Foster harm reduction policies, including but not limited to reduction of risks from substance use, hearing protection, heat exhaustion, and relevant health and safety measures;
6. Develop and recommend to the Mayor and Board of Supervisors “good neighbor policies” that appropriately balance the cultural, economic, employment and other benefits of a vibrant entertainment and late-night entertainment industry with the needs of residents and businesses in the vicinity of entertainment venues;
7. Mediate disputes between persons affected by cultural, entertainment, athletic and similar events and establishments, and the organizers of such events and operators of such establishments;
8. Assume responsibility from the Police Department for issuing entertainment-related permits;
9. Plan and coordinate City services for major events or which there is no recognized or adequate organizer or promoted, such as Halloween bacchanalia in the Castro District and New Year’s Eve festivities; and
10. Provide information regarding venues and services appropriate for conducting events and functions ancillary to conventions held within the City, including conventions at the Moscone Convention Center. (Added by Ord. 164-02, File No. 020784, App. 7/26/2002).



## POWERS AND DUTIES

### SEC. 90.4 POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE ENTERTAINMENT COMMISSION

In addition to the powers and duties set forth in Sections 4.102, 4.103 and 4.104 of the Charter, Administrative Code Chapter 90 sets forth the following powers and duties:

- (a) Accept, review, gather information regarding, and conduct hearings upon applications for entertainment-related permits; and rule upon and issue, deny, condition, suspend, revoke or transfer entertainment-related permits in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. The Commission may authorize the Executive Director or permit administrators, or both, to rule upon applications and grant, deny, condition, transfer or modify specified types of entertainment-related permits deemed by the Commission to be routine and unlikely to pose significant negative impacts on persons in the vicinity of the event or establishment for which the permit is sought; provided, that any City department with an interest in the permit or person having a right to appeal to the Board of Appeals under Section 30 of the San Francisco Business and Tax Regulations Code may, in writing, (i) request that the permit application be heard in the first instance by the Commission, or (ii) request reconsideration by the Commission of the Executive Director's or permit administrator's decision. If the Commission grants a request for reconsideration, it may hear the matter de novo, or may limit its review to the administrative record that was before the Executive Director or permit administrator at the time of his or her decision.
- (b) Impose reasonable conditions upon the issuance or renewal of entertainment-related permits consistent with the applicable law, regulations and the good neighbor policy or policies for the location or locations of the establishment or event for which the permit is sought.
- (c) Suspend, revoke or withdraw entertainment-related permits in accordance with the law and regulations governing such permits.
- (d) Coordinate with all relevant City departments for the conduct of any inspection or investigation necessary or appropriate for the full and fair consideration of applications for the issuance, renewal or transfer of entertainment-related permits, including without limitation the Police Department and the Department of Public Health.
- (e) Promote the use of City facilities for cultural, entertainment, athletic and similar events that generate revenue for the City, in consultation with the City departments having jurisdiction over such facilities.



- (f) Develop and recommend to the Mayor and Board of Supervisors “good neighbor policies” that balance competing interests and promote the health, safety and welfare of San Franciscans and visitors to San Francisco.
- (g) Mediate disputes between persons affected by cultural, entertainment and athletic events and establishments permitted by the City and the organizers of such events and operators of such establishments.
- (h) Plan and coordinate the provision of City services for major events for which there is no recognized organizer, promoter or sponsor, or where identified organizers, promoters or sponsors cannot, in the opinion of the Commission, provide adequate planning and coordination for the size, geographic distribution or nature of the event. For purposes of this Chapter, “major events” means an anticipated gathering of persons on or adjacent to public property or roadways that is likely to require police services, fire services, toilet facilities, traffic control, the availability of potable water or other City services to protect the health, safety and welfare of participants, neighbors or other persons likely to be affected by the event, including but not limited to spontaneous gatherings on Halloween, Pride events (including Pink Saturday), St. Patrick’s Day and New Year’s Eve.

- (i) Prepare and submit to the Mayor and Board of Supervisors a report analyzing the Commission’s effectiveness in advancing the policies specified in Section 90.1 and the laws governing entertainment-related permits, and making recommendations related thereto. The Commission shall submit the report to the Mayor and Board of Supervisors within one year of effective date of this Chapter, and not less than once every five years thereafter.

With the approval of the Recreation and Parks Commission or Port Commission, as the case may be, exercise the powers and perform the duties set forth in this Section with respect to events and establishments to be held or operated upon property or within facilities under the jurisdiction of the Recreation and Parks Commission or Port Commission. (Added by Ord. 164-02, File No. 020783, App. 7/26/2002)



*Dear Maggie and Kaitlyn,  
Just a note to say thank you  
for all your work in getting  
this EHP finalized ...  
especially getting it done  
in the middle of the holidays.  
Many thanks.*

**THE PENTHOUSE**  
Permit Applicant



## THE IMPORTANCE OF ENTERTAINMENT IN SAN FRANCISCO

Entertainment and nightlife aren't just cultural benefits; they are also major economic drivers.

In March 2012, the Controller's Office released an economic impact study of San Francisco's nightlife businesses that illustrates the importance of nightlife to San Francisco. This study was subsequently updated in 2016. Additionally, in April 2015, the Controller's Office conducted a study of the economic impact of outdoor events in San Francisco. Among the findings:

- » Over 3,850 nightlife establishments citywide employ over 63,000 workers, and **generated \$7.2 billion** in 2018. These establishments also contributed over **\$80 million in payroll taxes and sales taxes** to the City annually.
- » From 2010 to 2018, the City has added over **15,500 nightlife jobs**, or a 25% increase. Between 2010 and 2018, all nightlife industries added employment. Restaurants are by far the largest of the industries, however venues/nightclubs, bars, performing arts companies, and art galleries all increased employment during the eight-year period.





- » Notably, nightlife employment decreased slightly from 2017 to 2018, from 63,713 to 63,612 employees, with an increase in venue employment almost entirely offsetting slight declines in every other subsector. 2018 was the first year to see a decline in nightlife employment since at least 2010. Nightlife is vital to San Francisco's tourism industry. The 2012 study found that **94% of Bay Area residents visited the City at night to patronize a nightlife business.** For 31% of visitors from outside of San Francisco, a live music venue or nightclub was the main reason for their visit. On average, Bay Area patrons spent an average of \$105 per night on nightlife, while San Francisco residents spent an average of \$61 per night.
- » The nightlife industry also supports the City's economy by purchasing **\$1.6 billion annually in services and supplies** from local businesses, ranging from food and beverages to performers.
- » In 2014, 3.3 million people attended 79 outdoor events, where they spent an estimated **\$290 million.**
- » On average, food spending at outdoor events is equivalent to 10% of citywide spending at restaurants and bars.

- » Survey data reveals that visitors to San Francisco represented 58% of attendees, and **85% of them reported that the main reason they visited San Francisco was to attend the event.**
- » The spending of these visitors has a **\$1.1 billion** direct and indirect impact on the city's economy, and supports 9,300 private sector jobs in the retail, food services, accommodations, transportation, and other industries.
- » Outdoor events sustain a significant share of jobs in the hospitality industry, including an estimated **7% of restaurant and 6% of hotel employment.**

Visit [NightlifeSF.org](http://NightlifeSF.org) for news about events and programs to support the growth of the nightlife industry.



BEN BLEIMAN



DORI CAMINONG



LT. DAVE FALZON



STEVEN LEE



AL PEREZ



LAURA THOMAS

## WHAT DOES THE ENTERTAINMENT COMMISSION DO?

The San Francisco Entertainment Commission regulates, promotes, and enhances entertainment and nightlife in the City and County of San Francisco. The 7 member commission has the authority to accept, review and gather information to conduct hearings for entertainment-related permit applications. The City is becoming more populated, and as density increases, so does sensitivity to the impacts of entertainment. The Entertainment Commission works with venues, festivals and events, and the community to mitigate those impacts through mediation, enforcement, and outreach.



### WHO IS THE COMMISSION?

The Commission is made up of 7 members: 4 appointed by the Mayor and 3 appointed by the Board of Supervisors, and each representing a specific constituency.

#### APPOINTED BY THE MAYOR:

**Ben Bleiman** (Current)  
*Commission President, Industry Representative*

**Lt. Dave Falzon** (Current)  
*Commissioner, Law Enforcement Representative*

**Al Perez** (Current)  
*Commissioner, Neighborhood Representative*

**Bryant Tan** (January 2012 – July 2019)  
*Commissioner, Urban Planning Representative*

#### APPOINTED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

**Dori Caminong** (Current)  
*Commission Vice President, Neighborhood Representative*

**Steven Lee** (Current)  
*Commissioner, Industry Representative*

**Laura Thomas** (Current)  
*Commissioner, Public Health Representative*



MAGGIE WEILAND



KAITLYN AZEVEDO



MICHAEL FIORENTINO



DYLAN RICE



JORDAN ROBERTS



ANTONIO SAVINO



CRYSTAL STEWART-KENNEDY



*I want to thank the Commission again for conditionally approving our permit, and you for guiding us through the process. Ratha is elated she can continue operating as before, and I was honestly touched by the support our neighbors gave us. We are preparing to meet the other neighbors who may still have concerns, and will see if we can 'break donuts' at the table. I want to keep you in the loop with any new developments, and look forward to working with your department in the future.*

**DAVID YIN**  
Previous Permit Holder



**COMMISSION STAFF**

**Maggie Weiland**  
Executive Director

**Kaitlyn Azevedo**  
Deputy Director

**Dylan Rice**  
Senior Analyst

**Crystal Stewart-Kennedy**  
Permit Administrator and Commission Secretary

**Jordan Roberts**  
Senior Inspector

**Michael Fiorentino**  
Inspector

**Antonio Savino**  
Inspector



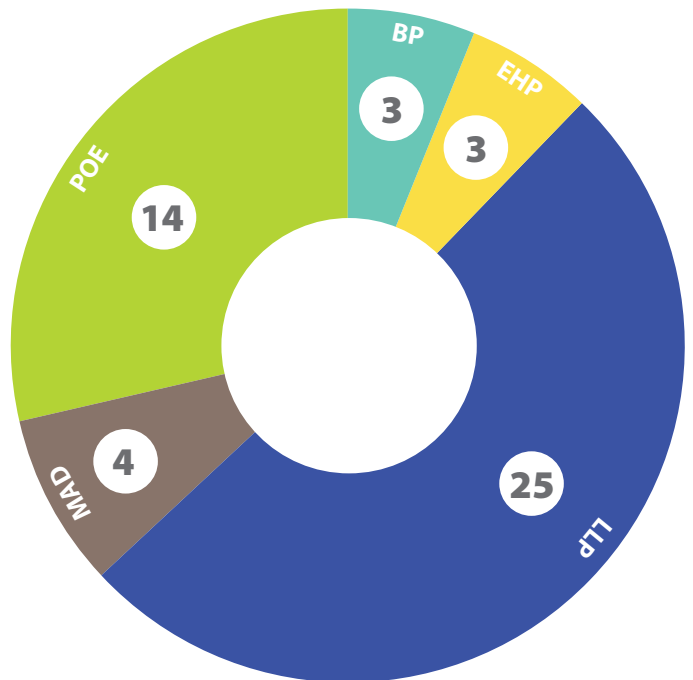
## PERMITS ISSUED AND SERVICED

The Entertainment Commission issues a variety of permits. The majority are the following:

- » Billiard Parlor
- » Extended Hours Premises
- » Limited Live Performance
- » Mechanical Amusement Device
- » One Time Events
- » Place of Entertainment

In FY 2018/19, The Entertainment Commission issued 49 Fixed Place Permits, including:

FIXED PLACE PERMITS	
Billiard Parlor (BP)	3
Extended Hours Premises (EHP)	3
Limited Live Performance (LLP)	25
Mechanical Amusement Device (MAD)	4
Place of Entertainment (POE)	14
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>49</b>



FIXED PLACE PERMITS FOR FY 2018/19

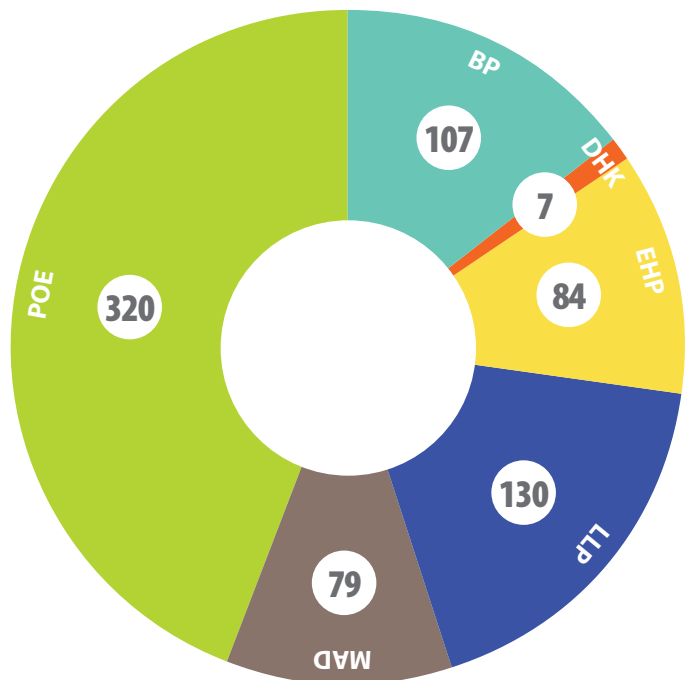


In FY 2018/19, The Entertainment commission issued 563 One Time Event Permits.

<b>ONE TIME EVENT PERMITS</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>563</b>

In addition to granting new permits, the Entertainment Commission is responsible for regulating Fixed Place Permits throughout the year. Valid permits are kept up-to-date with licenses issued and renewed annually by the Tax Collector. In FY 2018/19, there were 727 permit renewals.

<b>LICENSE RENEWALS</b>	
Billiard Parlor (BP)	107
Dance Hall Keeper (DHK)	7
Extended Hours Premises (EHP)	84
Limited Live Performance (LLP)	130
Mechanical Amusement Device (MAD)	79
Place of Entertainment (POE)	320
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>727</b>



LICENSE RENEWALS FOR FY 2018/19



## STAFFING AND BUDGET

The Entertainment Commission office is staffed with:

- » Executive Director (1)
- » Deputy Director (1)
- » Senior Analyst (1)
- » Commission Secretary / Permit Administrator (1)
- » Senior Inspector (1)
- » Part-Time Inspectors (2)

The FY2018/19 total operating budget for the Entertainment Commission is approximately \$1,008,000.

## ENFORCEMENT

The Entertainment Commission is tasked with ensuring that nightlife venues are complying with their permit conditions and our Good Neighbor Policy (GNP). The GNP is a list of 8 conditions under which all venues should operate to create and maintain harmony with their neighbors.

The Deputy Director oversees the enforcement team comprised of one full-time Senior Inspector position, and two part-time Inspector positions. The Inspectors visit venues regularly to monitor compliance with their permit conditions and the Good Neighbor Policy. They also follow up on complaints from residents and reports from the San Francisco Police Department and other

City agencies, including real-time complaints from 3-1-1. Typically, a first violation results in a Notice of Violation, with citations issued for repeated violations. Serious or repeated violations can result in a Director’s Order, and in very serious circumstances, a suspension or revocation of a permit.

In FY 2018/19, the Entertainment Commission issued 18 Notices of Violations, 13 Citations, 2 Suspensions, and 4 Director’s Orders. No revocations were issued.

As San Francisco’s population increases and housing is developed in areas that were previously industrial or commercial, so does the potential for conflicts between nightlife and residents.

Most of the time, the inspectors are able to work with the venues and the residents to come up with a solution, rather than issue citations or suspensions. The Entertainment Commission and staff also facilitate meetings between residents and venues to resolve issues so that residents and nightlife can coexist.

ENFORCEMENT IN FY 2018/19	
Notice of Violations Issued	18
Citations Issued	13
Director’s Orders	4
Suspensions	2
Revocations	0



## CONTINUED EFFORTS TO PRESERVE NIGHTLIFE IN SF

### ADMIN CODE CHAPTER 116: RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AND NIGHTLIFE COMPATIBILITY

Bursting at the seams with a population of 883,305 within 47 square miles, San Francisco is the second most densely populated major American city, trailing only New York, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. The second tech boom continues to bring many new residents into the City, and as a result, an increase in residential development. With only a finite amount of available land to develop, new housing has been constructed mainly in mixed-use areas where residential and commercial spaces neighbor one another. Oftentimes, these commercial spaces are home to music venues, or what the Entertainment Commission refers to as Places of Entertainment.

In an effort to reduce potential conflict between existing Places of Entertainment and new residential development in San Francisco, the City and County envisioned and passed legislation championed by Supervisor London Breed together with the Entertainment Commission in 2015 under Administrative Code Chapter 116 called Compatibility and Protection for Residential Uses and Places of Entertainment. In brief, the new law does three things:

- » It authorizes the San Francisco Entertainment Commission to hold a hearing on any proposed residential development located near a Place of Entertainment and allows the Commission to provide

written comments and recommendations to the Planning Department and Department of Building Inspection about any noise issues related to the proposed project.

- » It requires lessors and sellers of residential property near Places of Entertainment to disclose to new lessees and purchasers about the potential for noise and other inconveniences potentially associated with nearby venues before they rent or buy.
- » It establishes that no permitted Place of Entertainment located near a new residential development shall be a public or private nuisance on the basis of noise, if the venue operates in compliance with its permits and appropriate laws.

To learn more about the Compatibility and Protection for Residential Uses and Places of Entertainment ordinance, or to take the first steps in this process as a developer or project sponsor, please visit our website at: <http://sfgov.org/entertainment>.



## EDUCATING THE INDUSTRY

Education is a fundamental part of the Entertainment Commission's work to ensure compliance with rules and regulations and strengthen the sector with best practices and resources. Whether it's a one-on-one training, industry summit, or online navigation guide, the Commission aspires to create inclusive and accessible opportunities that serve the needs of the entire entertainment sector.

### ANNUAL ENTERTAINMENT COMMISSION RETREAT

Each year, EC Commissioners and staff gather for an offsite retreat. This year, we received updates from our colleague in the Office of Economic and Workforce Development, assessed our Residential Development Review process, discussed our strategic plan and measurable outcomes, and brainstormed ways to promote nightlife and entertainment in San Francisco.

### ANNUAL ENTERTAINMENT COMMISSION INDUSTRY SUMMIT

In the spring of 2019, we hosted the 10th Annual Entertainment Commission Nightlife and Entertainment Summit at local music venue Mezzanine, bringing together industry professionals, outdoor event organizers, and City agencies to collectively address a variety of concerns, brainstorm solutions, and create partnerships to improve and enhance nightlife and entertainment in SF.

Featured topics included state and local legislative updates that impact the industry, Good Neighbor Policy updates, advocating and organizing for businesses and the community, making music work in unconventional spaces, and planning a safe and successful cannabis event. Attendees heard industry professionals discuss the latest issues, trends, and opportunities that are impacting nightlife and entertainment in San Francisco, connected with industry and government leaders, and learned how to take action to strengthen their business, the industry, and the City.

### SUPPORTING SPECIAL EVENTS

Throughout FY 2018-19, the Entertainment Commission hosted three educational and networking events for event organizers as a part of the SF Outdoor Events Network (SFOEN) program. The program works to strengthen the vitality of community and cultural events through mixers, learning sessions, and online conversations. The events took place at El Rio, Manny's, and Mezzanine, and ranged in topics from Event Tech to Cannabis Policies and Trends. Altogether, over 200 people attended the events.

### PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The Entertainment Commission endeavors to serve as a concierge for the event industry, providing customized advice and assistance on navigating the rules, permits, departments, fees, and resources related to event planning in San Francisco. Between July 2018 and June 2019, the Entertainment Commission advised 368 event organizers through intake meetings, calls, emails, and trainings.





*Kaitlyn and Maggie -  
Thank you guys so much for  
working so closely with us on the  
permit process as you mentioned  
there are quite a few inspections  
to get thru in the City. I hope we  
will see you guys sometime down  
at the Valencia Room so you can  
see some of the changes.*

**THE VALENCIA ROOM**  
Permit Applicant



### **CREATING EDUCATIONAL TOOLS**

The Entertainment Commission strives to empower event organizers with the knowledge and tools to help make their events safer and more successful. In winter 2017, the EC began releasing quarterly industry bulletins to share the latest rules, best practices, and opportunities. Topics included New Cannabis Event Legislation, Single-Use Plastic Ban and Reusable Cup Legislation, One Time Event Permit Streamlining, Alcoholic Beverage Walks, and Grant Opportunities. To increase transparency of citywide rules and regulations for outdoor events, the EC spearheaded work with over 20 government agencies and a dozen event organizers to launch the City's first centralized permitting roadmap and [permit fee estimator](#), published in September 2018 and updated in January and July of 2019.

### **IMPROVING SITUATIONAL AWARENESS**

In spring 2018, the Entertainment Commission began managing the content of the Citywide Master Calendar of Special Events in collaboration with SF Department of Emergency Management (SFDEM). With the objective of improving the City's situational awareness and use of resources for special events, the shared calendar functions as the single source of special event information across stakeholder agencies. The Entertainment Commission and SFDEM piloted the new cloud-based version of the calendar during Fleet Week and engaged with 30+ City agencies and partners to ensure the accuracy and clarity of the content.



SAN FRANCISCO



# NIGHTLIFE AND ENTERTAINMENT SUMMIT

## 2018 - 2019 ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

During FY 2018/19, the Entertainment Commission accomplished the following:

### STAFF & OFFICE UPDATES

- » Celebrated the Entertainment Commission's 16th year of service to the City and County of San Francisco.
- » Mayor Breed announced appointment of Maggie Weiland as Executive Director in August 2018.
- » Hired and on-boarded Kaitlyn Azevedo as Deputy Director in November 2018.

### PERFORMANCE MEASURES

- » Processed 563 One Time Event Permits and 49 Fixed Place Permits.
- » Processed 18 Notices of Violation, 13 Citations, 4 Director's Orders, and 2 Suspensions.
- » Provided technical assistance to more than 368 outdoor event producers to help them navigate City departments, permitting rules/processes, and resources.

### EDUCATION

- » Released SF's first citywide permitting roadmap, best practices guide, and permit fee estimator for outdoor event producers in September 2018, the **SF Outdoor Event Planning & Permitting Guide**. Developed content with over 20 government agencies and a dozen event producers.
- » After extensive research and feedback, the Entertainment Commission voted to revise and modernize the EC's **Good Neighbor Policy** in December 2018. In response, EC Staff has provided in-person outreach and training to permit holders regarding the new policy.
- » In December 2018, hosted annual **Entertainment Commission Holiday Party** with live music at August Hall as a networking opportunity for our Commissioners, elected officials including Mayor Breed, City partners including Police Chief William Scott, and nightlife and entertainment community stakeholders.
- » Hosted the **10th Annual Entertainment Commission Nightlife and Entertainment Summit** at Mezzanine in the spring of 2019, bringing together industry professionals and City agencies to collectively address a variety of concerns, brainstorm solutions, and create partnerships to improve and enhance the SF Nightlife experience.



- » Met with two cultural corridors to discuss our **Limited Live Performance Permit process** as an avenue to enhance businesses and community engagement.
- » Hosted 3 **educational and networking events** for event organizers at venues including El Rio, Manny's, and Mezzanine, hosting over 200 total attendees.

### **SPECIAL PROJECTS**

- » Began working with the Digital Services Agency to create **electronic permit applications** and improve the user experience for One Time Indoor and Outdoor Event applicants. Launched first digital permit application for One Time Outdoor Event Permits using new **Screendoor platform** in May 2019.
- » Launched **Eleven Districts of Entertainment**, a program that partners the Entertainment Commission with each member of the Board of Supervisor to tour the permitted entertainment and nightlife venues in their respective districts.

### **CREATING EFFICIENCY**

- » Completed research and procurement phases for **digitization project** to transition all paper permit files to a centralized, electronic permit database. The digitization project will streamline workflow for all EC staff.
- » Acquired the **SF Citywide Master Calendar of Events** from the SF Department of Emergency Management and took on the role of content manager. Re-launched the calendar as an online, shared spreadsheet that serves as a single source of special event information for San Francisco. Calendar provides situational awareness for several government agencies and partners.

### **LEGISLATION**

- » Supported OEWD and co-sponsors Mayor Breed and Supervisor Brown in **Retail, Restaurant, and Nightlife Streamlining Legislation** modernizing Health, Planning, and Police Code provisions to reduce permitting and land use barriers facing businesses seeking to launch, expand, or adapt their offerings.



## 2019 - 2020: LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT YEAR

### 1. CREATE, SUSTAIN, AND SUPPORT AFFORDABLE ARTS INFRASTRUCTURE

- » Review permit fees and waiver tools and how they could be re-apportioned or re-scaled to address small business costs.
- » Advocate for increased entertainment use zoning areas and promote Limited Live Performance permit as accessible tool for providing entertainment.
- » Deepen the EC's connection to the SF Arts Commission, Grants for the Arts, and the Office of Economic and Workforce Development's grant making programs. Explore establishing an equity grant program for assisting venues and outdoor community and cultural events.

### 2. PROMOTE EQUITY AND EQUALITY IN THE INDUSTRY

- » Identify ways the EC can support venues and outdoor events in Cultural Districts.
- » Consider ideas for engaging neighborhoods as major stakeholders in entertainment growth.

- » Proactively engage and educate both the entertainment and development communities about each other's needs regarding Residential Development Compatibility and Administrative Code Chapter 116.

### 3. ENSURE PUBLIC SAFETY AND WELFARE IN ALL NEIGHBORHOODS

- » Implement Permit Officer Training program by partnering closely with SFPD District Station permit officers, captains, and command staff. Training will focus on enforcement and incident management involving entertainment venues and events.
- » Update our Safety and Security Best Practices Manual.
- » Assess potential changes to Municipal Police Code to improve enforcement alongside SFPD.
- » Develop harm reduction initiatives targeted toward the industry.

### 4. IMPROVE REGULATORY COORDINATION AND CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE

- » Provide support for the Mayor's Executive Directive 19-02 and subsequent Special Event Steering Committee (SESC) that will meet from August to December 2019 to review the current Special Events permitting process and make recommendations to the Mayor at the beginning of 2020.



- » Work with the City's Digital Services Team to integrate the EC's permitting structure into the City's new permitting portal.
- » Digitize and archive all paper permit files and transition to a digital solution for both front and back end that creates a user-friendly experience and streamlined workflow for staff.
- » Move to the new permit center at 49 South Van Ness, where we will be co-located with other permitting agencies.

#### **5. STRENGTHEN THE WORKFORCE THROUGH EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

- » Currently assessing the needs and challenges of the community and stakeholders to develop our annual Summit in 2020.
- » Consider job trainings for industry workers in early and mid-career levels as well as pre-professional young adults. Consider collaborating with OEWD to embed this idea into their existing workforce programs.
- » Continue to host quarterly mixers and education opportunities for the industry.



*This [Outdoor Event Planning & Permitting Guide] is really nice. You did a great job laying out the information with the colors and pictures. You made it very easy to read. I'm sure cities all around the country will be happy to have this as a resource. Congratulations on succeeding in what you set out to do and thanks for including me in your email."*

**KATHY HAROLD**  
Captain, Plan Check, SFFD





*Thank you for the opportunity to learn about all the great work you guys do! And thank you for giving me the chance to meet those fabulous people on the panel.*

**MOLLY BRADSHAW**  
Limited Live Performance Panelist  
and Permit Holder



## GOOD NEIGHBOR POLICY

- 1** While hosting entertainment, permit holder shall always have a staff member on site who is able to provide proof of permit, is trained in every aspect of venue operation, and is aware of all permit conditions.
- 2** Permit holder is responsible for the safety and security of venue patrons and the surrounding neighborhood. The Commission-approved security plan shall be followed, and permit holder shall secure the sidewalk for a 100-foot radius in all directions around the premises of the business to prevent injury to persons and/or damage to property.<sup>1</sup> Security staff shall be placed at all entrances and exits during the period from 10:00 pm to such time past closing that all patrons have left the vicinity.
- 3** Permit holder shall post easily visible signs outside each entrance and exit instructing patrons to:
  - a) Respect the neighborhood by keeping voices low,
  - b) Follow City and County of SF smoking regulations<sup>2</sup>, and
  - c) Obey City and County of SF anti-loitering regulations.<sup>3</sup>

All signs and walkways shall be well lit. Sidewalks shall be kept clear for pedestrians. Cars shall not be double parked.



**4** Permit holder shall provide a phone number to all interested neighbors for immediate contact with a staff member on site who has direct authority over the premises, knowledge of all permit conditions, and shall respond in a timely manner to address concerns.

**5** The Permit holder shall maintain, and be prepared to verify, records at the premises of current L.E.A.D. certification<sup>4</sup> for all persons working at the premises.

**6** Permit holder shall maintain all entrances and exits to the building and all sidewalks within 100 feet of the premises in a clean and sanitary condition. At some point between 30 minutes after closing and 8:00 am, permit holder shall walk the area within 100 feet of the property and dispose of any litter that may have been left by patrons.

**7** Permit holder shall take measures to reduce the amount of sound that escapes the venue. All doors and windows must be kept closed while hosting entertainment, unless otherwise conditioned on the permit. Permit holder shall be familiar with, and abide by, sound ordinances enforced by the Entertainment Commission, including but not limited to, the following:

- a) Regulation of Noise – Noise Limits
  - 1) Commercial & Industrial Property<sup>5</sup>
  - 2) Public Property<sup>6</sup>
- b) Outdoor Amplified Sound Regulations<sup>7</sup>
- c) Unnecessary Noise<sup>8</sup>

**8** Within 24 hours of any violent incident, or any time SFPD responds to a call for service at the premises, permit holder shall complete and send an incident report<sup>9</sup> to (1) their SFPD District Station Permit Officer and (2) the Entertainment Commission.




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<sup>1</sup> SF Municipal Police Code Article 15.1 “security plan” definition  
<sup>2</sup> SF Health Code Article 19F SEC. 1009.22(i)(1)  
<sup>3</sup> SF Municipal Police Code Article 2 Section 121(b)  
<sup>4</sup> [https://www.abc.ca.gov/programs/LEAD/Online\\_LEAD\\_Training.html](https://www.abc.ca.gov/programs/LEAD/Online_LEAD_Training.html)  
<sup>5</sup> SF Municipal Police code Article 29 Section 2909(b)  
<sup>6</sup> SF Municipal Police Code Article 29 Section 2909(c)  
<sup>7</sup> SF Municipal Police Code Article 15.1 Section 1060.16(b)(3)  
<sup>8</sup> SF Municipal Police Code Article 1 Section 49(b)  
<sup>9</sup> Entertainment Commission Incident Report Form



## San Francisco Entertainment Commission

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We're Moving in Summer 2020 to  
49 South Van Ness

  @SF Entertainment Commission  
[www.SFGov.org/Entertainment](http://www.SFGov.org/Entertainment)

The Commission meets on the first and third Tuesday of every month at 5:30 pm in room 416 of City Hall; live broadcasts are available on SFGovTV.

## COMMISSIONERS

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*Entertainment Industry Representative*

**Theodora Caminong**, Vice President  
*Neighborhood Representative*

**Lt. Dave Falzon**  
*Law Enforcement Representative*

**Steven Lee**  
*Entertainment Industry Representative*

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## PHOTO CREDITS

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