

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO LONDON BREED, MAYOR

> OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS DIRECTOR KATY TANG

June 27, 2023

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. 230701 – Planning Code - Citywide Expansion of Allowable Commercial, Restaurant, and Retail Uses - SUPPORT

Dear Ms. Calvillo,

On June 26, 2023 the Small Business Commission (the Commission) heard BOS File 230701 – Planning Code - Citywide Expansion of Allowable Commercial, Restaurant, and Retail Uses. The ordinance makes numerous changes to the Planning Code to reduce regulatory barriers for small businesses, allow small businesses greater flexibility in their use types, principally permit more uses throughout the City, allow more use types to fill ground floor commercial vacancies, and address challenges for venues that provide entertainment and alcohol.

The Commission voted unanimously to support this legislation. San Francisco is experiencing a high rate of commercial vacancies as the City recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic. This ordinance removes hurdles that currently prevent or delay small businesses from opening in neighborhood commercial corridors. Small businesses are important contributors to economic recovery since they offer employment opportunities, build community, draw tourists and enhance foot traffic, and spur economic growth.

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

Sincerely,

Katy Tang

Director, Office of Small Business