

Small Business Streamlining Legislation

San Francisco Planning Commission March 7, 2019

BACKGROUND

- February 2018 Release of OEWD Retail Study
- Recommendations Informed by Experiences in Small Business Assistance
- Developed and Refined in Consultation with City Permitting Departments
- Goals:
 - Help new businesses save time and money in the permitting process in order to fill vacancies more quickly and position businesses for success.
 - Strengthen existing businesses by enabling them to adapt and expand offerings that are responsive to consumer demands.

STREAMLINING LEGISLATION

- 1. Enable Existing Retail Businesses to Diversify Offerings and Attract New Business Models to Vacant Storefronts.
- 2. Increase Opportunities for Retail, Restaurant, and Nightlife Businesses to Fill Vacant Storefronts and Enhance Neighborhood Vibrancy.
- 3. Strengthen Existing Live Music Venues and Support New Venues by Reducing Duplicative and Otherwise Burdensome Requirements.
- 4. Clarify Ambiguous Planning Code Provisions to Bring Consistency to the Permitting Process for Retail, Restaurants, and Nightlife Businesses.

DIVERSIFYING OFFERINGS

- 1. Enable Existing Retail Businesses to Diversify Offerings and Attract New Business Models to Vacant Storefronts.
- Reduce costs and barriers for retail businesses to more easily offer to-go food service by aligning local health code with state requirements.
- Help retail businesses incorporate entertainment and events by eliminating unnecessary permitting requirements.

INCREASING OPPORTUNITIES

- 2. Increase Opportunities for Retail, Restaurant, and Nightlife Businesses to Fill Vacant Storefronts and Enhance Neighborhood Vibrancy.
- Allow businesses to save time and money to open patios and other outdoor spaces by streamlining permitting process for outdoor uses.
- Increase opportunities for appropriate retail, restaurant, and nightlife businesses in NC-1 zoning, LCUs, and LCCUs.









RUD's with Existing 1/4 Mile Buffers & Existing LCU/LCCU's

SAN FRANCISCO

Named NCD's with Existing and Proposed Buffer Zones & Existing LCU/LCCU's







Named NCD's with Existing and Proposed Buffer Zones & Existing LCU/LCCU's







INCREASING OPPORTUNITIES

From the Planning Department's NC @ 20 report:

Under current Code provisions, [NC-1s, NCU's and LCU's] are subject to a much greater level of scrutiny than perhaps is appropriate. Accordingly, **it is recommended that a suitable relaxation of the ¼ mile radius provisions be examined.** While the premise of extending specially tailored land use regulations to close-by areas is sound, the on-the-ground effect of extending multiple, distinct groups of restrictions to a single parcel is questionable.

INCREASING OPPORTUNITIES

- 2. Increase Opportunities for Retail, Restaurant, and Nightlife Businesses to Fill Vacant Storefronts and Enhance Neighborhood Vibrancy.
- Support open air food service in retail, restaurant, and nightlife businesses by aligning local health code with state requirements.
- Increase opportunities for arcade uses in retail and nightlife businesses by reducing zoning barriers.

SUPPORTING ENTERTAINMENT VENUES

- *3.* Strengthen Existing Live Music Venues and Support New Venues by Reducing Duplicative and Otherwise Burdensome Requirements.
- Reduce delays and costs for new entertainment businesses by eliminating duplicative inspections.
- Support all-ages music venues by better aligning requirements for entertainment venues that also operate as restaurants.

CLARIFYING CODE PROVISIONS

- 4. Clarify Ambiguous Planning Code Provisions to Bring Consistency to the Permitting Process for Retail, Restaurants, and Nightlife Businesses.
- Save new businesses time and money in navigating the permitting process by clarifying definitions of Restaurant and Bar uses.
- Support retail businesses' ability to incorporate food uses by clarifying accessory use provisions of the Planning Code.

ANTICIPATED AMENDMENTS

- Clarifying amendment for limited corner commercial uses
- Outdoor activity areas and neighborhood notification
- Amusement Game Arcades and General Entertainment zoning

