



CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
LONDON BREED, MAYOR

OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS
DIRECTOR KATY TANG

March 20, 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. 230212 – Small Business Month Fee Waiver - SUPPORT

Dear Ms. Calvillo,

On March 13, 2023 the Small Business Commission (the Commission) heard BOS File 230212 – Small Business Month Fee Waiver. Tita Bell, Legislative Aide to Supervisor Joel Engardio, presented the legislation. Ms. Bell explained that this proposal would expand the current Small Business Month Awning Fee Waiver Program by allowing fees for new awning installations to be waived. The existing Awning Fee Waiver Program currently waives fees for replacement awnings. It also clarifies that fees will be waived for awning applications submitted in May, even if permit issuance comes later. Lastly, the legislation includes a retroactivity clause in the event the ordinance is not enacted until after May 2023.

The Commission unanimously voted to support this legislation noting that this will help businesses that may not have permits for their awnings or that have received Notices of Violation for noncompliant awnings by waiving costly permitting fees. The Commission supports policies that pursue proactive compliance as an alternative to punitive enforcement, and this proposal furthers that goal.

The Commission commends Supervisor Engardio and his staff for their willingness to improve this important program. Thank you for considering the Commission's recommendations. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Katy Tang". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Katy Tang
Director, Office of Small Business