

June 14, 2019

Mayor London Breed  
City Hall, Room 200  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Mayor Breed:

On behalf of SPUR, I am writing in support of your direction for the soda tax revenue allocations to communities disproportionately impacted by sugary beverage related disease and would like to put forth recommendations regarding the process for allocating the soda tax revenue in the future. SPUR supported Proposition V, the soda tax, in 2016 to reverse the trend of rising obesity and diabetes rates and we appreciate your continued support of implementation.

We are pleased to see your budget recommendations align with the values articulated by the Sugary Drink Distributor Tax Advisory Committee, including equity and an emphasis on healthy eating and active living.

As outlined in the 2016 Soda Tax ordinance, the Sugary Drink Distributor Tax Advisory Committee is required to publish a report with its recommendations by March 1 of each year. However, this year, not all of the proposed budget allocations were brought to the committee for deliberation. The Committee completed their recommendations within the agreed upon timeline after weighing alternatives provided by a robust public process, including presentations by city departments and public comment from local organizations and concerned residents. In order to promote transparency and carry out the intent of voters, we recommend that in the future you encourage all city departments and organizations to follow the outlined process, and bring requests for funding to the Sugary Drink Distributor Tax Advisory Committee.

This will support the credibility of the city's commitment to uphold the intent of the soda tax ordinance. Thank you for the consideration of our views and for your ongoing commitments to support San Franciscans' health, especially for our more vulnerable residents.

Sincerely,



Katie Ettman  
Food and Agriculture Policy Associate

CC: Sophia Kittler