

May 28, 2020

San Francisco Planning Commission  
1650 Mission Street, Suite 400  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: May 28, 2020 Planning Commission Hearing Agenda Item F.14  
Conditional Use Review and Approval Process, 2020-003041PCA [Board File No. 200214]

Dear Planning Commissioners,

I am writing to share SPUR's support for Supervisor Peskin's legislation (with Planning staff's recommended modifications) to streamline the approvals and permitting processes and reduce fees for small and mid-sized businesses. This was a smart and important effort before the pandemic – and it is all the more critical today that the city provide supports to businesses seeking to start up and remain viable in our retail corridors across the city.

Our neighborhood commercial districts play many important roles in the community, serving as places for human connection and community identity as well as mini-economic and jobs centers. SPUR is currently undertaking an effort to (a) look at how cities might support the survival of existing businesses, (b) suggest planning and zoning reforms that will help new or growing businesses occupy vacant storefronts and (c) think more broadly about the role and future of our neighborhood commercial areas. This legislation is the kind of effort that we will be seeking to expand upon in the coming months, and we appreciate Supervisor Peskin and his colleagues' effort to remove hurdles for small businesses.

Thank you for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Best,

  
Kristy Wang

Community Planning Policy Director

cc: Supervisor Aaron Peskin, District 3  
SPUR Board of Directors