

SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Monday, February 23, 2026 4:30 P.M.

City Hall, Room 400, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102

1 Call to order and roll call

Meeting called to order at 4:30pm

Present: Benitez, Dickerson, Huie, Ortiz-Cartagena

Absent: Cornet, Herbert, Zouzounis

2 Approval of Legacy Business Registry Applications and Resolutions (Discussion and Action Item)

The Commission reviewed the following Legacy Business Registry applications.

- a. Brava! for Women in the Arts (Application No.: [LBR-2025-26-020](#))
- b. Bravo Pizza (Application No.: [LBR-2025-26-017](#))
- c. Casa Hispana (Application No.: [LBR-2025-26-023](#))
- d. Chicago II Barbershop (Application No.: [LBR-2025-26-026](#))
- e. Fugazi Travel Agency, Inc. (Application No.: [LBR-2025-26-029](#))
- f. Ike's Electric, Inc. (Application No.: [LBR-2025-26-028](#))
- g. Incredible Adventures (Application No.: [LBR-2025-26-025](#))
- h. Jim's Restaurant (Application No.: [LBR-2025-26-024](#))
- i. Santa Clara Organic Market (Application No.: [LBR-2025-26-027](#))
- j. Submarine Center (Application No.: [LBR-2015-16-078](#))
- k. Tricolore Caffè and Pizzeria (Application No.: [LBR-2025-26-030](#))
- l. Valley Chiropractic SF, Inc. (Application No.: [LBR-2024-25-020](#))

Public comment:

Isaias Garcia, Ike's Electric

Claudia Kindler, Valley Chiro

Robin Harlin, Chicago Barbershop

Edith Castorena, Brava for Women in the Arts

Katia Padilla, Kim's Restaurant

Sonya Faza, Casa Hispana

Armen Bedroussian, Submarine Center

Brian Denenger, Incredible Adventures

Commissioners thanks and congratulated applicants.

Motion to approve Legacy Business Registry applications: Dickerson

2nd: Benitez

Aye: Benitez, Dickerson, Huie, Ortiz-Cartagena

Absent: Cornet, Herbert, Zouzounis

Motion passes 4-0-3

3 BOS File 260118 Extending Waiver of Permit, License, and Business Registration Fees for Certain Small Businesses (Discussion and Action Item)

Lorenzo Rosas, Legislative Aide to Supervisor Sherrill presented an Ordinance amending the Business and Tax Regulations Code to extend, through June 30, 2027, the waiver of certain first-year permit, license, and business registration fees for specified small businesses that newly form or that open a new location.

No members of the public requested to speak

Commissioner comment:

Ortiz-Cartagena: This really helps small businesses

Huie: Helps encourage business owners to consider SF over other areas

Dickerson: Does this need to be renewed every year? Yes – must go through annual budget process.

Benitez: Good timing to support new events

Motion to support BOS File 260118: Ortiz-Cartagena

2nd: Dickerson

Aye: Benitez, Dickerson, Huie, Ortiz-Cartagena

Absent: Cornet, Herbert, Zouzounis

Motion passes 4-0-3

4 BOS File 260133 - Sidewalk Flower Stand Permits (Discussion and Action Item)

Director Tang presented an Ordinance amending the Public Works Code to enhance and modify the sidewalk flower stand permit program by, among other things, 1) updating and clarifying the applicable fees, 2) authorizing Public Works to consult with the Office of Small Business to identify and evaluate eligible permit applicants, 3) updating permit application requirements, 4) supplementing permit conditions and restrictions, 5) establishing minimum operating hours of 35 hours per week, 6) requiring permittees to be present at sidewalk flower stands for at least 50% of the applicable hours of operation and to dedicate a minimum of 75% of the sidewalk flower stand for the sale or storage of certain eligible flowers and plants, 7) prohibiting the leasing or sub-leasing of sidewalk flower stands, and 8) prohibiting the sale, assignment, inheritance, or transfer of flower stand permits; amending the Police Code to authorize Public Works to impose, assess, and collect administrative penalties; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

No members of the public requested to speak

Commissioner comment:

Huie: Would this allow formula retail? Would this impact news stands? No requirements explicitly address formula retail. News stands are covered under different permits.

Benitez: Great low barrier to entry opportunity

Ortiz-Cartagena: This would be good for micro entrepreneurs.

Motion to support BOS File 260133: Benitez

2nd: Dickerson

Aye: Benitez, Dickerson, Huie, Ortiz-Cartagena

Absent: Cornet, Herbert, Zouzounis

Motion passes 4-0-3

5 Budget Priorities (Discussion Item)

Director Tang reviewed the FY26-27 Office of Small Business and Small Business Commission budget priorities.

No members of the public requested to speak.

Commissioner comment:

Ortiz-Cartagena: happy to provide advocacy and support

6 Approval of Draft Meeting Minutes (Discussion and Action Item)

Motion to approve draft meeting minutes: Dickerson

2nd: Benitez

Aye: Benitez, Dickerson, Huie, Ortiz-Cartagena
Absent: Cornet, Herbert, Zouzounis
Motion passes 4-0-3

7 General Public Comment (Discussion Item)

No members of the public requested to speak

8 Director's Report (Discussion Item)

Director Tang gave legislative updates – there will be a Hearing on the future of Market Street, there was interim zoning controls introduced to support public safety in the Tenderloin that would temporarily require CUA for new businesses that have liquor and tobacco licenses. The Prop E Commission Streamlining Task Force made their final recommendations to the Board of Supervisors, who will now review them.

Commissioner comment:

Ortiz-Cartagena: Can SBC officially advocate on behalf of itself? Yes, or Commissioners can individually weigh in. As people of color, commissioner roles have been particularly helpful in building relationships.

Huie: Requested to agendaize that at next meeting. SBC has a special place in city conversations.

Public comment:

Simon Bertrand, SF New Deal: Supports SBC

Cali, CLECHA: In support of SBC as a Commission

Alma Castellanos: SBC plays important role

9 Commissioner Discussion and New Business (Discussion Item)

Commissioner comments:

Ortiz-Cartagena: Love through the Arts event coming up in Visitation Valley

Dickerson: SF Black History Month bike ride through Third Street coming up

Huie: Lunar New Year parade coming. Joy Luck will be playing at Great Star Theater.

10 Adjournment

Meeting adjourned in honor of Bruce Espino