



FW: Opposition to Southern District boundary changes without staffing plan

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Sent: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 7:24 AM

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Cc: Youngblood, Stacy (POL) <Stacy.A.Youngblood@sfgov.org>

Subject: Opposition to Southern District boundary changes without staffing plan

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Dear San Francisco Police Commissioners,

As a 10+ year resident of SOMA West, I'm writing to oppose the proposed expansion of the Southern Police District's boundaries *unless* it is paired with a concrete, finalized, and public plan to increase staffing and resources.

Southern Station already covers one of San Francisco's largest and most complex geographies, including Moscone Center, Oracle Park, Chase Center, Mission Bay, South Beach, Rincon Hill, East Cut, SOMA West, Yerba Buena, and even Treasure Island. Unfortunately, it does not

currently have, nor has it historically received, resources proportional to its workload.

Public data underscores the imbalance. According to the [San Francisco Chronicle](#), Southern has the highest ratio of Priority A and B incidents to officers in the city. At the time of the analysis, Southern had 101 officers for 346 Priority A/B calls. To give a couple of points of comparison, Tenderloin had 126 officers for 149 calls, and Northern had 118 officers for 232 Priority A and B calls. Southern is also the only district to see crime increase this year. In short: even before any boundary change, Southern is under-resourced relative to need.

The proposed expansion—adding the Market-to-Mission corridor and the entirety of Market Street—would dramatically increase calls for service in some of the city's most challenging areas, including Mid-Market and the ongoing open-air drug markets and high-crime zones around 6th Street. It would also add major cultural and transit hubs (the Orpheum and Golden Gate Theaters), all four downtown BART stations, and the Salesforce Transit Center.

The department's own projections indicate a 25% increase in calls for service and a 29% increase in crime reports for Southern, with no corresponding staffing plan demonstrating the district will be adequately resourced to meet this demand. Southern Station cannot absorb that scale of added responsibility without a substantial resource increase.

This matters for public safety and for economic recovery. Southern includes critical economic engines, such as Moscone Center, large office districts, stadiums and event venues, and major hotels. A visible, effective police presence is essential for residents, workers, visitors, and the city's downtown recovery.

Furthermore, SOMA West alone has grown by more than 40% over the last decade, bringing higher residential density, more businesses, and greater public safety needs. Diluting already limited resources will make our neighborhoods less safe, not more.

Finally, San Francisco City Charter §4.127 requires the Chief of Police to transmit a staffing report to the Police Commission between October 1 and November 1 of each odd-numbered year. Given that timeline, the report should now be complete. I respectfully request that the Commission publish the report and solicit public feedback on proposed staffing levels before approving any boundary changes, so that residents can understand and provide feedback as to whether proposed staffing is adequate for the expanded area.

I ask the Commission to please prioritize fully staffing and supporting Southern Station and publicly aligning resources with workload before considering any boundary expansion.

Sincerely,
Leah Edwards
SOMA West Resident