[Zoning - Interim Prohibition on Commercial Mergers in the Proposed Calle 24 Special Use District]

Urgency Ordinance approving an interim prohibition on commercial storefront mergers of greater than 799 gross square feet in the proposed Calle 24 Special Use District, which generally includes all lots bounded by 22nd Street, Potrero Avenue, Cesar Chavez Street, Capp Street, and both sides of 24th Street from Capp Street to Bartlett Street, as well as certain additional adjacent lots, for 45 days in accordance with California Government Code Sections 65858 et seq.; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act; and making findings of consistency with the General Plan and the eight priority policies of Planning Code Section 101.1.

Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

Section 1. Findings.

(a) General Findings.

(1) The proposed Calle 24 Special Use District ("Calle 24 SUD") is bounded by the following streets:

(a) To the north, all lots fronting the southern side of 22nd Street from Mission Street to Potrero Avenue;
(b) To the east, all lots fronting the western side of Potrero Avenue from 22nd Street to Cesar Chavez Street;

c) To the south, all lots fronting the northern side of Cesar Chavez Street, from Potrero Avenue to Capp Street; and

d) To the west, all lots fronting the western side of Capp Street from Cesar Chavez to 24th Street, then all lots fronting both sides of 24th Street to the eastern side of Bartlett Street, then all lots fronting the western side of Capp Street from 24th Street to 22nd Street.

The proposed Calle 24 SUD additionally includes the following lots adjacent to the above boundaries: Lots 019D and 046A in Assessor's Block 3637; Lots 005 and 017A in Assessor's Block 6517; Lot 035 in Assessor's Block 6528; and Lot 003A in Assessor's Block 6570.

(2) The Mayor's Office, the District 9 Supervisor's Office, and the public are currently engaged in a planning process to develop a comprehensive set of zoning and design controls for this area. This planning process follows the Board of Supervisors unanimous passage of Board Resolution No. 168-14, establishing the Calle 24 (pronounced "Veinticuatro") Latino Cultural District in May 2014. The stated purposes of establishing the Calle 24 Latino Cultural District were to recognize the importance of Calle 24 as a center of Latino culture and commerce and enhance the unique nature of Calle 24 as a special place for San Francisco's residents and tourists.

(3) As part of the planning process for In response to the creation of the Calle 24 Latino Cultural District and the proposed Calle-24 SUD, the City awarded a grant to the Brava Theater and the Lower 24th Street Neighbors and Merchants Association to facilitate community input in developing a Latino Cultural District Plan. A council comprised of residents, businesses, and other neighborhood stakeholders meets monthly and brings
together residents, workers, artists, and business owners. After a year’s worth of meetings, as well as several retreats and public community input sessions, this work resulted in the Calle 24 Latino Cultural District Report, which can be found in Board File No. 140421. As a result of this engagement, including but not exclusive to the report, a prohibition on storefront mergers was identified as a strategy to retain affordable retail spaces and the character of the corridor, which includes many small retail spaces. These small retail spaces enable many businesses to operate and contribute to the diverse commercial fabric along 24th Street. The report identified the merger of smaller storefronts as a leading cause of neighborhood-serving business displacement in the neighborhood.

(4) During the current economic boom cycle, small neighborhood-serving retail, laundromat, and grocery uses in the Calle 24 neighborhood have been particularly susceptible to displacement and closure.

(5) In response to these changes and in order to stabilize the displacement of these small neighborhood-serving businesses while the City and interested stakeholders have an opportunity to work collaboratively on a community planning process that may result in the designation of the propose SUD or other amendments to the Planning Code, this Board intends to place a temporary prohibition, also referred to as an interim zoning moratorium prohibition, on commercial storefront mergers over a certain size.

(6) These interim controls are intended to provide stability to the neighborhood during the time that the proposed Calle 24 SUD, and any other proposed Planning Code amendments, are under development and public review. In developing the controls for the proposed SUD, the Board urges the Planning Department to balance the needs for retaining neighborhood-serving retail and service uses with the desire to have more affordable housing and a vibrant small business community.

(b) Findings Related to Imposition of an Interim Moratorium Prohibition.
(1) Planning Code Section 306.7 provides for the imposition of interim zoning controls to accomplish several objectives, including preservation of historic and architecturally significant buildings and areas; preservation of residential neighborhoods; preservation of neighborhoods and areas of mixed residential and commercial uses in order to preserve the existing character of such neighborhoods and areas; and development and conservation of the City's commerce and industry to maintain the City's economic vitality, provide its citizens with adequate jobs and business opportunities, and maintain adequate services for its residents, visitors, businesses, and institutions.

(2) These controls are intended and designed to address problems and conditions associated with mergers of small commercial storefronts while the proposed Calle 24 SUD planning process is pending so that the City can continue to preserve neighborhoods and areas of mixed residential and commercial uses in order to maintain the existing character of such neighborhoods and areas and develop and conserve the City's commerce for the reasons specified above in Subsection (a).

(3) This Board has considered the impact on the public health, safety, peace, and general welfare if the interim controls proposed herein were not imposed.

(4) This Board has determined that the public interest will be best served by imposition of these interim controls at this time in order to ensure that the legislative scheme that may be ultimately adopted is not undermined during the planning and legislative process for permanent controls, which process shall be conducted within a reasonable time.

(c) Planning Code Section 101.1 Findings.

This interim zoning moratorium prohibition advances and is consistent with: Priority Policy 1 in that the controls will preserve and enhance existing neighborhood-serving retail uses and enhance future opportunities for resident employment in and ownership of such businesses; Priority Policy 2 in that the controls will conserve and protect existing
neighborhood character in order to preserve the cultural and economic diversity of this
neighborhood; and Priority Policy 5 in that the controls will maintain a diverse economic base
by protecting our neighborhood service sector from displacement due to larger mergers and
commercial office development and will enhance future opportunities for resident employment
and ownership in this sector. With respect to Priority Policies 3, 4, 6, 7, and 8, the Board finds
that the interim zoning moratorium prohibition does not, at this time, have an effect upon these
policies, and thus, will not conflict with said policies.

(d) Environmental Findings. The Planning Department has determined that the
actions contemplated in this Ordinance are in compliance with the California Environmental
Quality Act (California Public Resources Code sections 21000 et seq.). The Board of
Supervisors hereby affirms this determination. A copy of said determination is on file with the
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. 150584 and incorporated herein by reference.

Section 2. The following interim zoning moratorium prohibition shall be adopted as an
Urgency Ordinance:
(a) The proposed Calle 24 Special Use District area ("Calle 24 SUD") shall be bounded by the following streets:

(1) To the north, all lots fronting the southern side of 22nd Street from Mission
Street to Potrero Avenue;

(2) To the east, all lots fronting the western side of Potrero Avenue from 22nd
Street to Cesar Chavez Street;

(3) To the south, all lots fronting the northern side of Cesar Chavez Street, from
Potrero Avenue to Capp Street; and

(4) To the west, all lots fronting the western side of Capp Street from Cesar
Chavez to 24th Street, then all lots fronting both sides of 24th Street to the eastern side of
Bartlett Street, then all lots fronting the western side of Capp Street from 24th Street to 22nd Street.

The proposed Calle 24 SUD additionally includes the following lots outside the above boundaries: Lots 019D and 046A in Assessor's Block 3637; Lots 005 and 017A in Assessor's Block 6517; Lot 035 in Assessor's Block 6528; and Lot 003A in Assessor's Block 6570.

(b) In the proposed Calle 24 SUD, neither the Planning Department nor the Planning Commission shall issue an approval or authorization for any merger of groundfloor commercial use space where the merger would result in groundfloor commercial use space greater than 799 gross square feet.

(c) The following districts, uses, and projects are exempt from these controls:

(1) Projects subject to a development agreement under Administrative Code Chapter 56 and California Government Code Sections 65864 et seq.;

(2) Projects that have submitted an environmental evaluation case to the Planning Department on or before June 2, 2015; and

(3) Projects that received a Planning Commission approval on or before June 2, 2015.

(d) This interim zoning moratorium prohibition shall remain in effect for 45 days unless extended in accordance with California Government Code Section 65858 or permanent controls are adopted to address commercial mergers and new restaurant uses in this area, whichever first occurs.

(e) If application of this ordinance would have the effect of denying approvals needed for development of any multifamily housing portion of a project specified in California
Government Code Section 65858(c) and (h), this moratorium prohibition shall not apply to that use.

Section 3. Within 25 days of the Board’s adoption of this ordinance, the Planning Department shall submit to the Clerk of the Board a written report describing the measures taken to alleviate the conditions that led to the adoption of the ordinance. Upon receipt of the report, the Clerk shall calendar a motion for the full Board to consider and approve said report. Said hearing and the action taken thereon shall be no later than 35 days after this ordinance is effective.

Section 4. Effective Date. This urgency ordinance shall become effective immediately after enactment. Enactment occurs when the Mayor signs the ordinance, the Mayor returns the ordinance unsigned or does not sign the ordinance within ten days of receiving it, or the Board of Supervisors overrides the Mayor’s veto of the ordinance by a 4/5ths vote.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

By:
MARENA BYRNE
Deputy City Attorney
Urgency Ordinance approving an interim prohibition on commercial storefront mergers of greater than 799 gross square feet in the proposed Calle 24 Special Use District, which generally includes all lots bounded by 22nd Street, Potrero Avenue, Cesar Chavez Street, Capp Street, and both sides of 24th Street from Capp Street to Bartlett Street, as well as certain additional adjacent lots, for 45 days in accordance with California Government Code, Sections 65858, et seq.; affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act; and making findings of consistency with the General Plan, and the eight priority policies of Planning Code, Section 101.1.

July 13, 2015 Land Use and Transportation Committee - AMENDED, AN AMENDMENT OF THE WHOLE BEARING SAME TITLE

July 13, 2015 Land Use and Transportation Committee - RECOMMENDED AS AMENDED

July 28, 2015 Board of Supervisors - FINALLY PASSED
   Ayes: 10 - Avalos, Breed, Campos, Christensen, Cohen, Farrell, Kim, Mar, Tang and Yee
   Noes: 1 - Wiener

File No. 150584

I hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was FINALLY PASSED on 7/28/2015 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

Mayor

Date Approved