



SHAMANN WALTON 華頌善

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Thursday, January 9, 2024 Contact: Natalie Gee, natalie.gee@sfgov.org

SUPERVISOR SHAMANN WALTON'S STATEMENT ON THE CLOSURE OF THE ONLY TWO WALGREENS IN DISTRICT 10

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – It is with great concern and disappointment that we acknowledge the sudden impending closure of the remaining two Walgreens locations in District 10 at 5300 3rd Street and 1189 Potrero Avenue, bringing the total number of store closures in San Francisco to 12. These stores have long been a vital resource for our community, providing essential medications, household goods, and personal care items to residents, including many seniors and families with limited means.

These closures are part of 1,200 nationwide Walgreens closures expected over the next three fiscal years due to profitability challenges, including stores unable to cover the costs of leases.

Walgreens closures in District 10:

- **1189 Potrero Avenue:** Last day of business: February 26, 2025. All prescriptions will be transferred to the Walgreens at 2690 Mission Street unless patients specify a different pharmacy.
- **5300 3rd Street:** Last day of business: February 27, 2025. All prescriptions will be transferred to the Walgreens at 2494 San Bruno Avenue unless patients specify a different pharmacy. Patients using this location will also have 90 days of free mobile prescription delivery.

The 5300 3rd Street location in Bayview, was previously designated as the alternative site when the Walgreens at Bayview Plaza, located at 3801 3rd Street, closed in 2019. The 1189 Potrero Avenue location provides vital access to patients at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital and serves residents in the Mission and Potrero Hill neighborhoods.

Our office met with a representative from Walgreens and was informed that these closures are final, with no room for negotiation to secure an extension. Additionally, Walgreens has assured us that affected employees will be reassigned to other unionized locations. (Correction)



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Walgreens has also stated that it will strive to retain most employees, though the collective bargaining agreement requires reassignment to unionized locations.

This decision disproportionately affects low-income residents, seniors, and individuals with limited mobility, who rely on these locations for lifesaving prescriptions and affordable health products. These closures exacerbate existing challenges in neighborhoods already facing barriers to basic services.

As a City, we must commit to addressing the needs of all residents, particularly those in historically underserved communities. In light of these closures, our office is taking immediate steps to:

- 1. **Engage with local stakeholders** to explore viable alternatives, including the potential for new partnerships with pharmacies and community health providers.
- 2. Work with the Mayor's office to expand city support for seniors and low-income residents, ensuring access to essential medications and personal care products.
- 3. Advocate for equitable access to essential services, urging businesses and stakeholders to invest in our most vulnerable neighborhoods.

We understand the frustration and hardship these closures bring and we call on the Walgreens CEO, leadership, and shareholders to reevaluate and extend their closing timeline so that residents have ample time to prepare to find alternatives. We must ensure that every resident, especially those who live in vulnerable neighborhoods have access to essential care and services. This is a call to action for corporate partners, community organizations, and all of city leaders to come together, strengthen our safety net, and prevent further erosion of critical resources.

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