




AARON PESKIN

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 23, 2021

TO: Alaric Degrafinried, SF Public Works, Acting Director
DiJaida Durden, SF Public Works, Deputy Director for Operations
Jeremy Spitz, SF Public Works, Policy & Government Affairs Director

FROM: Supervisor Aaron Peskin 

RE: District 3 "Clean and Green" Concepts

Thank you for meeting with my office earlier this year to identify ways to improve street and sidewalk cleanliness and trash can capacity in the northeast corner of the city. As we discussed, Nob Hill, in particular, has suffered from a lack of cleaning services, as well as a shortage of trash cans. This is a dense residential and commercial neighborhood that has largely fallen outside of the boundaries of the Community Benefit Districts (CBD's) and Business Improvement District (BID) that surround it, where additional services are otherwise provided. I would like to identify solutions to increase street cleaning and trash cans throughout this area. My office surveyed residents throughout this area, and we have identified key locations as outlined below.

Street Cleaning

One of the issues that residents have raised is the lack of mechanized street cleaning on east/west streets in this area, and my office is working with SFMTA to ensure a return to normal pre-COVID enforcement so that DPW cleaners can access the streets. We have photographs of cars with tickets on them dating back three weeks, so it's clear that some of these streets are not getting cleaned on a monthly – let alone weekly – basis.

One Nob Hill resident also had an idea to phase in weekly street cleaning with an annual – or even biannual – street sweep that could focus on "cable car route" streets where we are looking forward to welcoming back these iconic vehicles.

This constituent's idea was to start as soon as possible and pilot a block-by-block deep cleaning of the Nob Hill neighborhood over a five week period, starting from Hyde Street from Broadway to Pacific Avenue, Jackson Street from Hyde Street to Leavenworth Street and then Washington Street from Powell Street to Mason Street, etc., which would be noticed for no parking on both sides of the street so that the mechanical sweepers can proceed uninhibited.

Another street cleaning idea that was submitted by a resident: utilize the no parking times allotted for the 1 California express bus lane for dedicated street sweeping. Right now, this primarily impacts Sacramento Street, which has morning street sweeping twice a week, as well as no-parking during the afternoon commute on the far right curb lane as you drive outbound.

The other locations that residents identified specifically as needing mechanized street cleaning:

1. Washington Street (from Hyde Street to Powell Street) – *“cable car route”*
2. Jackson Street (from Powell Street to Hyde Street, though there are a couple of those blocks that are currently being swept on an abbreviated schedule) – *“cable car route”*
3. Hyde Street (from Broadway to Washington Street) – *“cable car route”*
4. Hyde Street (from Bush Street to Post Street) – *street cleaning says 3x a week, but the build-up of trash is pretty bad, and likely a result of cars not moving? Needs enforcement*
5. Jones Street and Taylor Street between Sutter Street and Pine Street
6. South side of Union Street between Larkin Street and Hyde Street – *this block has two longish 45 Union bus stops on it and is often dirty as a result of Swensens patronage and ice cream cup refuse*
7. Broadway between Larkin Street and Cyrus Place
 - a. On the *north side of Broadway between Larkin Street and Hyde Street* there is a tunnel wall on the south side that is a magnet for trash.
 - b. On *Broadway between Hyde Street and Cyrus Place* there is always an accumulation of trash on both sides of the tunnel wall and into the small park.
8. Russian Hill Neighbors are still waiting on the new schedule to include these four blocks via a registered petition for mechanical street sweeping with a smaller vehicle and I would appreciate an update on this at your convenience.

Trash Cans

We need to revisit the trash can removal policies of past administrations and add high-capacity tamper-proof trash cans in this high-density residential and tourist neighborhood. I appreciate that DPW is looking at alternatives to Big Belly trash cans, but currently Big Belly trash cans are the only successful models we have in neighborhoods like Middle Polk, Union Square and North Beach. Here are the suggested locations requested by D3 residents we surveyed via our newsletter:

1. Hotel Vertigo at 940 Sutter Street – *apparently there a group of existing trash cans that are constantly full and overflowing.*
2. Intersection of Sutter Street and Jones Street – *existing trash cans are apparently in dire need of service, particularly on the weekends where increased weekend use leads to overflowing bins*
3. Sacramento Street and Jones Street
4. Sacramento Street and Hyde Street
5. Replace concrete can with high-capacity tamper-proof can in front of the Sutter Street Fine Foods Market at Sutter Street and Larkin Street

6. Replace overflowing trash can with high-capacity tamper-proof out in front of Swensens ice cream at 1999 Hyde Street

I'm happy to follow up on any of these ideas, as necessary, including via an on-site walking assessment with DPW staff and neighborhood leaders. Finally, I'd like to thank DPW for its support of our various monthly resident-led neighborhood clean-ups – block by block, they are really trying to make a difference.