



KATY TANG
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**SUPERVISOR KATY TANG SPONSORS LEGISLATION URGING SAN FRANCISCO
BUSINESSES TO PARTICIPATE IN SF BIZ CONNECT**

*SF Biz Connect program challenges large businesses to buy local and shift an additional 5% of
their spending to small and local businesses*

Supervisor Katy Tang today announced a resolution asking large San Francisco companies to join the SF Biz Connect program and take the pledge to shift an additional 5% of their spending to small and local businesses. The resolution is expected to pass at the Board of Supervisors tomorrow.

“It is the beginning of San Francisco Small Business Week, and we as a city are encouraging our successful larger companies to invest in our local economy,” said Supervisor Tang. “We are always asking our residents to buy from local businesses, because for every ten million dollars spent locally, 57 jobs are created. Imagine the impact if our larger companies did the same.”

SF Biz Connect was originally launched in 2015 during Small Business Week. Today, the program has over 40 pledge businesses, and 185 small businesses providing goods or services to larger companies. These small businesses are listed on the SF Biz Connect website at <http://www.sfbizconnect.com/>. SF Biz Connect events also create opportunities for small businesses to meet with the purchasing agents of larger companies that they may not have had the opportunity to meet otherwise. Small businesses all over San Francisco are taking advantage of this great opportunity.

“SF Biz Connect delivers on Mayor Lee’s Shared Prosperity agenda by challenging local companies to increase their purchasing at local small businesses – keeping jobs and spending in San Francisco,” said Todd Rufo, Director of the Office of Economic and Workforce Development (OEWD). “San Francisco is home to the world’s greatest small businesses and the Biz Connect program makes it easy to buy local. I want to thank Supervisor Tang for putting forward this legislation and being a strong partner in supporting our small businesses.”

Many well-known companies are taking the pledge. Pinterest has expanded their local food and beverage offerings, Social Imprints has worked with pledge businesses, Braintree, Airbnb, and Zendesk to name a few, and local Sunset guitar maker, Prisma Guitars, has been working with Anchor Steam on a number of projects.



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“The SF Biz Connect program is a great way to network and foster relationships with larger businesses that are looking for something special,” said Hrag Kalebjian, owner of Henry’s House of Coffee in the Outer Sunset. “The program has helped us grow and reinvest in our community, and we are looking forward to another 50 years in the Outer Sunset.”

“We are fortunate in this city to be the home to world-renowned companies, but small businesses are the heart of our unique neighborhoods and support the daily quality of life of our residents,” said Supervisor Tang. “SF Biz Connect is a great way to build the strength of our economy and share the success with our local entrepreneurs as well.”

For more information, please visit <http://www.sfbizconnect.com/> or contact Supervisor Tang’s office at 415-554-7460 or Katy.Tang@sfgov.org.

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