



SAN  
FRANCISCO  
**CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE**

October 6, 2017

The Honorable London Breed  
President, San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room #244  
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: File #170599 Ordinance Prohibiting Autonomous Delivery Devices

Dear President Breed:

The San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, representing over 2,500 businesses of all types and sizes, urges the Board of Supervisors to reject the proposed ordinance prohibiting personal delivery devices on the sidewalks of San Francisco and instead to follow the lead of various Bay Area communities and enact sensible regulations.

The development of cutting age technology is a large part of the city's knowledge based economy. To ban the development of personal delivery devices in San Francisco, of all places, could shut down this industry in its infancy.

This is legislation in search of a problem, where no problem currently exists. A serious look at the development of these devices shows that sharing a sidewalk with a robot vehicle will pose virtually no risk to pedestrians, will expand the methods small businesses connect with customers and will provide new access to services for seniors and the disabled. With only a handful of these devices being tested on our sidewalks, the city has more than enough time to enact a proper regulatory scheme before widespread commercial application occurs, without a ban.

The San Francisco Chamber has convened a working group to develop and support regulations that will allow this industry to continue to grow in the city, employing your constituents and partnering with our small business community. We urge the Board of Supervisors to reject this legislation and to direct the Department of Public Works to draft reasonable, workable regulations for this important industry.

Sincerely,

Jim Lazarus  
Senior Vice President of Public Policy

cc: Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, to be distributed to all Supervisors; Mayor Ed Lee