SAN FRANCISCO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Our City. Your Business.

March 7, 2018

The Honorable Malia Cohen
Chair, Budget and Finance Sub-Committee
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Suite 244
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Oppose File #180116, Appropriation – General Fund – Public Works for Street and Sidewalk Cleaning Pilot Enhancement Project - $2,500,000 – FY2017-2018 (Kim)

Dear Supervisor Cohen,

The San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, representing over 2,500 local businesses with over 200,000 employees, urges you and the Budget and Finance Sub-Committee of the Board of Supervisors to oppose Supervisor Kim's proposed ordinance, file #180116, appropriating $2,500,000 of the prior year's fund balance in the General Fund to the Department of Public Works to enhance street cleaning operations.

The Chamber recognizes the need to expand the City's programs that keep our streets and sidewalks clean and safe. We are constantly hearing from our members that it is extremely difficult to run their local businesses successfully because the conditions of the streets and sidewalks are filthy and getting worse, not better.

We appreciate Supervisor Kim's efforts to look for ways to enhance street and sidewalk cleaning as soon as possible, but we do not agree that a one-time appropriation of $2.5 million from the General Fund for a temporary fix this fiscal year, that ends in a few months, is the prudent way to tackle the problem. And while we understand the needs in this regard in the Tenderloin, we do not believe one neighborhood in the Supervisor's district should be the exclusive recipient of community grant dollars from this appropriation.

Additional funding should be allocated in the Mayor's 2018-2019 budget and future budgets to address this problem in a broader, more comprehensive and sustainable way that improves the conditions of our urban environment in all of the City's neighborhoods.

The San Francisco Chamber therefore requests that you and your colleagues on the Budget and Finance Sub-Committee not send this legislation on to the full Board for a vote.

Sincerely,

Jim Lazarus
Senior Vice President, Public Policy

cc: Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, to be distributed to all Supervisors;
Mayor Mark Farrell