

SANITATION AND STREETS COMMISSION

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

London N. Breed, Mayor

Correspondence Log

November 13, 2024 through April 21, 2025

Date Received	From	Subject
March 14, 2025	Estelle Cimino	Urgent Need for More Public Trash Cans in North Beach & Throughout the City

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Dear Sanitation Commission,

I am writing to bring attention to the urgent need for more public trash cans in North Beach and other high-traffic areas of San Francisco. As one of the city's most historic and beloved tourist destinations, North Beach should be a vibrant, clean, and welcoming neighborhood, but unfortunately, the lack of sufficient trash receptacles has led to overflowing garbage, littered sidewalks, and a decline in overall cleanliness.

Currently, the few trash cans available are constantly overflowing, creating unsanitary and unsightly conditions that not only negatively impact residents and businesses but also diminish the experience for visitors. As a business owner, customers often complain to us about this issue and it is particularly concerning in a neighborhood like North Beach, where hundreds if not thousands of tourists visit daily to enjoy its cultural heritage, cafes, shops and restaurants. A city that prides itself on its beauty, sustainability, and tourism appeal should not have streets littered with trash due to a lack of basic public waste infrastructure.

Beyond aesthetics, the public health and safety issues caused by insufficient trash cans are significant:

- Trash accumulation invites rodents and pests, increasing the risk of disease.

- Homeless individuals with no proper disposal options often leave waste on sidewalks, doorways, or in alleys, creating further sanitation concerns.

- **Dog waste is a growing issue**—many responsible pet owners want to clean up after their dogs, but without accessible trash bins, some leave the waste behind, creating an unpleasant and unsanitary environment for pedestrians.

- There is so much food waste on the sidewalks that sometimes it is impossible to keep my dog from eating it, which often causes her to get sick. And once she actually ate drugs that were on the street and I had to take her to the vet.

Adding more strategically placed public trash cans, including bins with separate compartments for recyclables and other refuse, would be an easy and effective way to reduce street litter, improve sanitation, and encourage responsible waste disposal.

I urge the commission to prioritize adding more trash receptacles throughout North Beach and other areas in need. A cleaner city benefits everyone—residents, businesses, and visitors alike.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I appreciate your efforts in keeping San Francisco a world-class city, and I look forward to seeing improvements in our waste management strategy.

Best regards,

~Estelle

Estelle Cimino

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