



**PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION**  
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

**London N. Breed, Mayor**

***Media Clippings***  
***April 2, 2024 – April 15, 2024***

Deep Clean Operation in San Francisco Chinatown, Public Works Flushed the Streets and Remove Graffiti

Singtao Daily – April 11, 2024

[三藩市華埠大掃除 工務局洗路清塗鴉 | 星島日報 \(singtaousa.com\)](https://www.singtaousa.com)

See attached translation.

CleanCorridorsSF Deep Cleaning Sidewalks and Abating Graffiti

World Journal – April 11, 2024

[金山清潔商業走廊 洗馬路除塗鴉 還市容乾淨 | 金山焦點 | 舊金山 | 世界新聞網 \(worldjournal.com\)](https://www.worldjournal.com)

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KTSF 26 – April 11, 2024

San Francisco Public Works Conducted CleanCorridorsSF Deep Cleaning Program on Two Streets in Chinatown

[三藩市工務局到華埠兩條街 執行CleanCorridorsSF深度清潔計劃 4.11 \(粵\) \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com)

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## Singtao Daily

Deep Clean Operation in San Francisco Chinatown, Public Works Flushed the Streets and Remove Graffiti

[三藩市華埠大掃除 工務局洗路清塗鴉 | 星島日報 \(singtaousa.com\)](#)

Cleaning Operation covering Chinatown started since 7 in the morning from the block of Stockton Tunnel and covered Grant Avenue, some important commercial corridors in Chinatown. Over 20 Public Works staff power washed sidewalks, flushed the streets, removed graffiti, picked up debris, and did outreach to the merchants.

“It’s our program to deep clean over 50 commercial corridors throughout the city over the year,” said Carla Short, Director of Public Works, and introduced the program as joint operation by different teams of Public Works and no extra funding needed. Those teams of Public Works work at different shifts and in all neighborhoods tirelessly around the clock.

Director Carla Short and then ensured the safety of the chemical they were using was strictly regulated and wouldn’t posed any health risks to the pedestrians.

Public Works now offers a free graffiti abatement program to merchants in Chinatown. There are two different graffiti abatement teams, removing graffiti on public property and private property, but the graffiti abatement on private property must be applied and approved by the property owner. Eligible property owners are required to sign waiver form too.

The City set aside a two million fund to launch the two-year pilot program to remove graffiti on private properties, reduce the financial burden. During the 11<sup>th</sup> operation, graffiti team also took photos of the graffiti tagged business and put up notice to introduce the program.

According to the City codes, property owners are obliged to remove graffiti on their property in time. Public Works responded to hundreds of 311 complaints against graffiti and sent out notice of violation.

After receiving the Notice of Violation, property owners have 30 days to remove the graffiti. If failure to do so, Public Works can mail out citation and charge \$362 inspection fee. Another 15 days without abating the graffiti, Public Works team can remove graffiti but it will cost the property owner at least \$400 of service fee, aside from up to \$1,000 fine.

Merchants can call 311 customer service to request the interest form. Public Works will remove graffiti visible from the public right-of-way excluding murals, and several exceptions. A waiver form must be signed by the property owners too.

## World Journal

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CleanCorridorsSF program was conducted by San Francisco Public Works since the July 2023. Aiming to collaborate large group of street cleaning workers of Public Works to clean up sidewalks, flush streets, and remove graffiti in a different district every Thursday.

April 11 is the scheduled cleaning day for Stockton St. and Grant Ave., a deep clean operation was ongoing including power washing sidewalks, picking up litters, removing ads and graffiti on public properties.

Carla Short, Director of Public Works explained one of the reasons why the program was introduced was that deep cleaning commercial neighborhoods could help the merchants to operate and develop. Public Works can allocate resources and equipment. She also pointed out that the more frequently a sidewalk is cleaned, the higher the possibility that people will keep it clean.

As for graffiti abatement, Carla Short emphasized Public Works only abate paintings or words on public properties. "Without the requests and permissions by the property owners, we won't do that."

There are a lot of different methods to remove graffiti and Short said the Public Works team are experts on it. They could use chemicals, power wash, or even rubbing to remove graffiti. Sometimes they will paint on graffiti to cover it. All depends on the location and materials of the graffiti.

For graffiti on private properties, Short explained there are different situations. "For example, our staff noticed graffiti on private property along commercial corridors, we will notify the owner, telling them it's their obligation to remove graffiti, because you are in the commercial neighborhood," she said, "but they can opt in to our program, we can do it for them. This operation is the time we can build up partnership by sending out notice to property owners."

Short said the street cleaning efforts by Public Works have received positive feedbacks from the residents. In Chinatown, it's the Lunar New Year and she understood that cleaning was part of Lunar New Year traditions. So she hoped with the efforts of Public Works, streets and sidewalks can be as clean as they were last year during APEC. "We are here to work with you and support all the time."

## **KTSF 26**

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San Francisco Public Works staff were in Stockton and Grant today to do deep clean, including power washing the streets and sidewalks, picking up litters, and removing graffiti.

San Francisco Public Works performs CleanCorridorsSF program to deep clean different neighborhoods citywide. Today Public Works arrive in Stockton from Sacramento to Broadway, and Grant from Bush to Broadway, with staff cleaning the streets, picking up debris, and removing graffiti and ads. Public Works hopes that the deep clean operation in the neighborhoods can encourage the merchants and residents to maintain the cleanliness, and more outreach efforts will be conducted in the future to remind the merchants and property owners to maintain the sidewalks adjacent to their business and properties.

Public Works also deployed specialists to educate the business tagged by graffiti that they can either remove the graffiti by themselves or opt in the City's free graffiti abatement pilot program. Eligible businesses must be located in designated commercial corridors including Chinatown. Public Works or their contractors will evaluate the graffiti and adopt methods such

as paint, power wash, or chemicals to remove it. If property owners are interested in applying for the program, they can call 311 for more information.