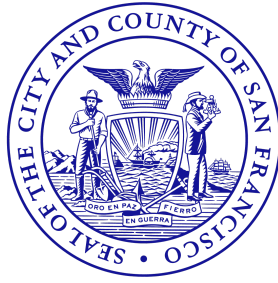


City and County
of San Francisco



Board of Supervisors
Member, District 6

MATT DORSEY

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NEWS RELEASE

Supervisor Matt Dorsey, City and Community Partners Launch West SoMa Entertainment Zone

*New West SoMa Entertainment Zone will support LGBTQ-owned businesses,
strengthen local nightlife, and bring renewed energy to the Folsom Street
corridor*

SAN FRANCISCO – Supervisor Matt Dorsey’s office, in partnership with Mayor Daniel Lurie, the SOMA West Community Benefit District, the LEATHER & LGBTQ Cultural District, and the Office of Economic and Workforce Development, launched the West SoMa Entertainment Zone to support local businesses, strengthen neighborhood nightlife, and bring more activity to the West SoMa neighborhood and its commercial corridors.

Entertainment zones authorized by Senator Scott Wiener’s SB 76 (2023) and SB 969 (2024) allow cities and counties to designate outdoor areas where open alcoholic beverages may be consumed during permitted events. Under this framework, the West SoMa Entertainment Zone allows participating restaurants, bars, breweries, and wineries to sell “to-go” drinks for enjoyment on the sidewalk within marked boundaries.

“West SoMa is home to a rich LGBTQ and Leather history that continues to shape San Francisco’s cultural identity,” **said Supervisor Matt Dorsey**. “This Entertainment Zone honors that legacy while creating new opportunities for the community to gather, celebrate, and experience the venues and institutions that have made the neighborhood a destination. It is

an investment in the future of West SoMa as a vibrant, welcoming, and unmistakably San Francisco center of nightlife and culture.”

“San Francisco’s entertainment zones give life to our neighborhoods and support the small businesses that make our city special,” **said Mayor Daniel Lurie**. “The West SoMa Entertainment Zone will bring more people to the Folsom Street corridor, creating new opportunities for residents and visitors to come together while supporting local businesses. The city’s approach to SoMa has been limited to drugs for years—as we continue that work, we’re going to invest in the energy and economic activity of this incredible neighborhood too.”

Led by the SOMA West Community Benefit District and the LEATHER & LGBTQ Cultural District, the zone took effect earlier this month on Thursday, July 9, with sidewalk activation operating Thursday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 11:59 p.m., giving visitors an easy way to enjoy West SoMa’s nightlife corridor throughout the week. The zone may also operate expanded street-closure activations during major events such as Folsom Street Fair, Bearrison Street Fair, and the Up Your Alley block party.

Last year, we had a smaller Entertainment Zone to support the Community Benefit District’s SOMA Nights activation, and it was so much fun the whole neighborhood wanted in!” **said Alex Ludlum, Executive Directors of the SOMA West Community Benefit District**. “With this expansion, nearly the entire length of West SoMa is now covered, creating more opportunities to support local businesses and bring the neighborhood together.”

“The LEATHER & LGBTQ Cultural District is delighted to see the Entertainment Zone activated in SoMa,” **said Bob Goldfarb, Executive Director of the LEATHER & LGBTQ Cultural District**. “Similar zones in other parts of the city have been a tremendous success, drawing more people to their neighborhoods and providing an important boost to local businesses. We look forward to seeing those same benefits in SoMa and encourage everyone to come out and enjoy all that our district has to offer.”

"Entertainment Zones are helping reimagine how San Franciscans experience our neighborhoods while creating new opportunities for local businesses to thrive," **said Anne Taupier, Director of the Office of Economic and Workforce Development**. "The West SoMa Entertainment Zone will bring new energy to one of San Francisco's most distinctive neighborhoods and reinforce West SoMa as one of San Francisco's premier nightlife destinations."

Twelve bars are currently registered to participate in the West SoMa Entertainment Zone, and any eligible business within the zone may join at any time by meeting the participation requirements. Buyers must be of legal drinking age, show ID, and wear a wristband from the venue where they purchase their drink. All beverages must be served in approved compostable cups—no glass or metal—and must remain within the activated sidewalk area; they cannot be taken into other businesses or outside the zone.

- Audio Night Club
- Azucar Lounge
- Bella SF
- Butter
- BuzzWorks
- Cat Club
- Driftwood
- Nosh Box
- Oasis
- Powerhouse
- SF Eagle
- The Stud

“This Entertainment Zone will bring new energy to one of San Francisco’s most iconic LGBTQ nightlife districts,” **said Randy Maupin, general manager of the San Francisco Eagle and Cat Club bars.** “I look forward to welcoming new visitors to the neighborhood, bringing more customers into local bars like the Eagle and Cat Club, and showcasing everything that makes the Folsom corridor such a unique destination.”

“This monumental legislation will facilitate an all-new outdoor vibe for Butter and BuzzWorks guests, cultivating a scene every weekend where guests can comfortably mingle with guests from other nearby venues and bars,” **said Vlad Cood, owner of Butter and BuzzWorks bars.** “It’s simply fantastic!”

“Expanding the South of Market Entertainment District has brought vital foot traffic back to Azucar, where patrons can now enjoy to-go drinks on the sidewalks and during street activations,” **said John Ojinaga, owner of Azucar Lounge.** “This expanded outdoor mobility drives cross-promotion along the corridor, transforming the neighborhood into a safer, lively destination that captures crucial revenue for our businesses and those in our community.”

The boundaries of the West SoMa Entertainment Zone are summarized below:

- Folsom Street: Russ Street to 12th Street
- Hallam Street: Folsom Street to Brush Street
- Langton Street: Folsom Street to Decker Street
- Russ Street: Folsom Street to Minna Street
- Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, 11th and 12th streets: Folsom Street to Harrison Street
- 10th Street: Howard Street to Harrison Street
- Harrison Street: Seventh Street to 13th Street
- Howard Street: 10th Street to 11th Street
- Dore Street: Folsom Street to Sheridan Street
- Ringgold Street: Eighth Street to Ninth Street
- Heron Street: Eighth Street to Berwick Street

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