

Adlah Chisti

District 11 Meet the Candidate Week 11: What would be your first moves as supervisor to boost the district's local business vitality?

The main takeaway is that the **vacancy tax is not working** and has become a burden on those who are actively trying to rent their storefront. And we **need to reevaluate it**. And without **adequate funding or investment** to some of these empty storefronts we may not see the change. We need to:

- **Expand the Vacant to Vibrant grant program** for pop ups to district level corridors, not just downtown.
- **Continue the First Year Free program** which waives the cost of initial registration fees, initial license fee. And I know this because I personally have attended Excelsior Action Group (EAG) meetings and they have specifically helped places like Stay Cute Salon to open and even open a second location, as well as Talas Wine, Love and Light Yoga SF and the Halfway Club.
- **Support shared spaces.** For this to happen we have to secure funding for assisting in cleaning and upgrading storefronts which is necessary for some of the properties in the district.