Eduard Navarro

Meet the Candidates, week 23: For 10 years, the <u>building at Polk and Jackson</u>, formerly home of Lombardi Sports, has not found a tenant. One issue that came up is the neighborhood's restrictions on formula retail. **Would you support loosening the retail restrictions in your district?**

Retail restrictions function similarly to tariffs, often making commodity prices more expensive for residents. The prolonged vacancy at Polk and Jackson illustrates these unintended consequences.

Our small businesses should be encouraged to further specialize, continue offering unique products that enrich city living by only being available here. A larger grocery store, however, is a commodity, often an extension of the home, a necessity that is not competitive but complementary to our local boutique groceries offering uncommon specialty products.

By thoughtfully adjusting these restrictions, we can effectively harbor neighborhood character while also affording consumer choice, affordability, and dynamic commercial corridors that benefit all residents.